THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVII.—NEW SERIES, No. 587.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28, 1857. PRICE { UNSTAMPED 5d. STAMPED ... 6d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—MOST ARTISTIC DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating the STORY of "BLUE BEARD," with appropriate Music, and HUMOUROUS DESCRIPTION, by LEICESTER BUCKINGHAM, Esq., late of the Panopticon, daily at Four and Nine.—Also, a NEW SERIES, illustrating the "TRAVELLER'S PORTFOLIO," every day at Two.

New Lecture by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on "OPTICAL ILLUSIONS," with very curious experiments, every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Three and Eight.

Last week of the MINIATURE JUVENILE THEATRE, and of Mr. LOGRENIA'S astonishing CONJURING TRICKS, and COMIC DELUSIONS, Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three and Eight.

N.B.—Tickets, 5s. each, admitting to the EVENING CLASSES of the SECOND TERM, may be obtained on and after the 26th inst., and a New Course of Monday Evening Lectures will commence on the 2nd February.

DEVONSHIRE-SQUARE CHAPEL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET.—The Rev. J. H. HINTON'S FOURTH LECTURE—

SUBJECT—CHRISTIANITY EXHIBITED IN PERSONAL VIRTUE.

On SUNDAY EVENING NEXT, Feb. 1, at Half-past Six.

LECTURES ON PEACE.

The THIRD of a COURSE of LECTURES on the above subject will be delivered at the HALL of the YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, 165, ALDERSGATE-STREET, on FRIDAY EVENING, Jan. 30, 1857, by EDMUND FRY, Esq.

SUBJECT—THE PRACTICABILITY OF PEACE PRINCIPLES.

Doors open at Half-past Seven. Lecture to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Admission free.

HIS GRACE the DUKE of ARGYLL will preside at the NINETY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of the ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, on WEDNESDAY, March 25. The names of gentlemen to act as Stewards will be thankfully received. The total expense to each Steward will be merely the price of the Dinner Ticket.

32, Ludgate-hill (E.C.) JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL.

Instituted 1758. Incorporated 1848.

For Children of both Sexes, of all denominations, and from every part of the Kingdom.

PATRON.—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

FIFTY CHILDREN will be ADMITTED into the SCHOOL during the present year. Forms to fill up, and Lists of Governors, may be obtained at the Office of the Charity. No application can be received for the April Election after the 1st March. Candidates must be between Seven and Eleven years of age. All the votes polled at one election are carried forward to the next; and New Subscribers can vote in April. Contributions are earnestly solicited to meet the increased expenditure.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Offices—32, Ludgate-hill, London (E.C.)

TO DESTITUTE CHURCHES.—A Baptist Minister, of Congregational views, is OPEN to invitation to RE-ENTER the pastoral charge, or to supply the pulpit of any weak and destitute cause unable wholly to support a Minister.

Address, "Noncon," 3, Mylne-street, Claremont-square.

MERCERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, Assistants of good experience in the SILK and RIBBON DEPARTMENTS.

Apply, stating qualifications, &c, to W. Renton and Co., 12, 13, and 14, Princes-street, Edinburgh.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, a SITUATION as IMPROVER in the GENERAL DRAPERY. One on the sea coast preferred.

Address, A. T., Post-office, Buckingham.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, an active and persevering ASSISTANT in the GENERAL LINEN and WOOLLEN DRAPERY TRADE. He must be an efficient Salesman, and a good Stock Keeper.

Apply, stating age, salary, and extent of experience (with reference), to J. Turner, Market-street, Oakham.

TO DRAPERS and HOSIERS. — FOR SALE, a genuine READY-MONEY CONCERN, established some years. Modern Plate-glass Front. First-rate business situation, in a large thoroughfare about three miles west of Hyde-park. Capital required, about 500*l*. Satisfactory reasons given for leaving.

Apply, prepaid, to John Gower, Valuer of Drapers' Stocks, 11, Paternoster-row.

TO TAILORS.—A FOREMAN WANTED, in a respectable trade in London; liberal remuneration to an experienced and really successful Cutter.

Apply, by letter only, stating fully all particulars, to "R. S.," at Messrs. Kenneyleys, 7, Saville-row, Burlington-gardens.

BOARD and RESIDENCE.—A Married Lady, not an invalid, but needing temporary relaxation, wishes to meet with a pious family, where she might board for a few weeks. Locality not an object. A minister's family preferred.

Address, M. Y., Mr. Gardner, Mare-street, Hackney.

TO THE MEMBERS of the BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Having been urged by many influential Members of your valuable Society, who take a deep interest in its welfare, to come forward as a candidate for the vacant seat at your Board, I am induced to solicit the favour of your interest.

I find, from the large number of Policy holders, and from their being so widely scattered, that it would be impossible to make a personal canvass. I therefore trust that you will kindly endeavour to attend and give me your support on the day of election, Feb. 24, at Three o'clock, at Radley's Hotel.

I am convinced that the extension of the principle of Life Assurance is of the utmost importance, both nationally and individually, and unquestionably the Mutual System, such as your Directors have from the commencement of the Company so admirably and efficiently carried out, is the most advantageous for the Assured.

Although not personally acquainted, I may be known by name to many of you, through my being connected with a "Firm" of long standing, whose business connexions extend throughout the country.

If you should do me the honour of electing me a Director, I shall do my utmost to extend and increase the Company's usefulness and prosperity, and shall enter upon my duties with a deep sense of my personal responsibility, and with a determination to exercise, on behalf of your interest, the utmost vigilance and care.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

HENRY COOPER.

4, Chiswell-street, London, Jan. 17, 1857.

P.S.—Any communication from Members unable to attend the election, will be esteemed a favour.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY, 14, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL MEETING of the Members of the NATIONAL PERMANENT MUTUAL BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY (commonly called the National Freehold Land Society), will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, in the City of London, on FRIDAY, the 13th day of February, 1857, at Half-past Six o'clock in the Evening precisely.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

A YOUNG LADY wishes for an ENGAGEMENT as ASSISTANT in a BERLIN, or any FANCY SHOP.

For further particulars, apply, Delta, Post-office, Huntingdon.

A LADY, who has had several years' experience in Tuition, is desirous of meeting with an ENGAGEMENT as RESIDENT GOVERNESS. She is capable of imparting a thoroughly English education, with Music, French, and Drawing.

Apply to Beta, Post-office, Huntingdon.

SCHOLASTIC.—FOR DISPOSAL, an old established DAY-SCHOOL for BOYS. The only one in the town with the exception of the National School.

Address, W., care of Mr. Appleyard, Duke-street, Adelphi.

ORIENTAL and BIBLICAL LANGUAGES. The Rev. G. SMALL gives INSTRUCTION in Hindustani, Sanscrit, Persian, and Bengali, as also in Hebrew, and the Rudiments of Arabic and Syriac, at his Class Room, 3, Leadenhall-street; or at private residences and scholastic establishments in London and vicinity.

For terms, testimonials, &c., address, 1, St. John's Grove, Croydon; or as above.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL, ST. JOHN'S-WOOD.—Principal, Mr. T. GROSVENOR, L.C.P.—This Establishment is designed to afford the Educational advantages of the Public Schools, but free from the evils so commonly attending them. The intellectual powers of the pupils are developed by being brought into constant and healthful exercise; while their moral and religious culture is watched over with ceaseless solicitude. In the Domestic arrangements, the comfort and happiness of the pupils are systematically consulted. Prospectuses will be forwarded on application to Mr. Grosvenor, Albion-road, St. John's-wood.

EDUCATION, LONDON.—Parents seeking superior intellectual cultivation for their daughters, combined with earnest prayerful effort for their spiritual progress, may be supplied with a circular stating terms, which are moderate, with a list of first-class Masters in attendance, and with references of the most satisfactory character, by applying to M. C., Post-office, Ladbrook Grove, Notting-hill, London. In addition to the daily careful schoolroom training, the Sabbath teachings of one of the most earnest Evangelical Ministers in London is engaged—a Minister whose efforts have for many years been peculiarly blessed and useful to the young.

BELGRAVE HOUSE SEMINARY, BRILL, BUCKS.

This Establishment for Young Ladies having been enlarged, a few additional Pupils can be received at Christmas. Great advantages are offered to parents desiring a well-grounded and useful education for their daughters, while, at the same time, the ornamental branches are not forgotten.

The system pursued embraces the most approved methods of instruction, and is calculated to prepare the Pupils for an efficient discharge of the domestic and social duties likely to devolve upon them in after life. The Young Ladies are treated with maternal kindness, and nothing is omitted that can contribute to their comfort and progress.

TERMS—TWENTY GUINEAS PER ANNUM, including every expense except Laundress and Books.

Provisions unlimited and of the best quality.

French, German, Music, and Drawing, when required, taught by well-qualified Masters.

A Prospectus with full particulars will be forwarded on application to Mrs. Clark, Belgrave House, Brill, Bucks.

BERNERS-STREET, IPSWICH. — The MISSES BUTLER RECEIVE YOUNG LADIES to Board and Educate. Terms and References will be given on application. The NEXT TERM will COMMENCE Feb. 2.

CHURCH OF THE PILGRIM FATHERS.

"To this appeal every Nonconformist heart must respond."—Rev. Dr. HARRIS.

The necessity for a CONGREGATIONAL PLACE of WORSHIP in SOUTHWARK is PECULIAR and URGENT.

Under a sense of Christian responsibility, the oldest Church of the Denomination felt constrained to make an effort to erect a new sanctuary, when compelled to vacate the Chapel in the Borough.

More than once a similar attempt made by other parties had been relinquished as impracticable. Local difficulties were deemed insurmountable.

The Church in Southwark was encouraged, nevertheless, to persevere by the "willing pledge" of the Congregational Ministers in London to "aid them to the utmost of their power."

Considering the extreme difficulty of obtaining a site, it was suggested that the building should be worthy of its commanding position, and that, being erected in Southwark (the birthplace of English Congregationalism), it should have a memorial character.

By a special resolution, the Congregational Union of England and Wales sanctioned this design as worthy of the universal support and sympathy of the Churches.

The co-operation of our brethren in New England was spontaneously offered.

Fortified by these distinct and repeated assurances of support, the Local Committee have commenced the Building, and invite the friends of the object to visit the site secured in the New Kent-road, near the Bricklayers' Arms.

Immediate and continuous help is needed in order to the safety and ultimate success of the undertaking.

The kind and generous contributions already received, are a substantial pledge to the Committee that the requisite aid will not be withheld.

Every conscientious Congregationalist must feel, that to relinquish the work, after a sanction so full, and contributions so freely devoted, would be utterly unjustifiable.

The Committee are alive especially to the consideration that the good faith of Englishmen and the honour of the Denomination are involved in the fulfilment of the trust committed to them.

In the removal of difficulties, and from the timely supply of funds at critical junctures, they gather the cheering confidence that they act under the Divine approval.

Deeply sensible of obligation to their friends and brethren who have contributed, they now earnestly, but respectfully, solicit the donations of others, that the building may rise, in its fair proportions, as a memorial at once of those who obtained "Freedom to Worship God," and of the unity and fraternal sympathy of the friends of truth and freedom on both sides of the Atlantic.

The Building Fund is invested in the name of B. Hanbury, Esq., in conjunction with three other Trustees.

Contributions will be thankfully received by Mr. Alderman Wire, Chairman of the Committee; Rev. John Waddington, 9, Surrey-square; Mr. W. Bradford, 1, Dover-road; or by Mr. Bennett, 68, Virginia-terrace, Dover-road.

The following are among the Subscriptions paid or promised. A full list will be given when the Contributions are all sent in:—

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Abbot Lawrence	200	0	0
London Chapel Building Society	200	0	0
Josh. Wilson, Esq.	100	0	0
John Finch, Esq.	105	0	0
The Coward Trust	100	0	0
Mr. Medwin	100	0	0
Mr. Trotman	100	0	0
Mr. J. M. Webb	50	0	0
Mr. B. Hanbury	50	0	0
Miss Leete	50	0	0
Mr. J. E. Newsom	50	0	0
James Cunliffe, Esq.	50	0	0
Rev. G. G. Waddington and friends	50	0	0
Collection at the Weigh House, per Rev. T. Binney	50	0	0
Jas. Carter, Esq.	41	0	0
S. Morley, Esq.	35	0	0
Mr. Ald. Wire	35	0	0
Mr. Churchill	25	0	0
Geo. Hitchcock, Esq.	25	0	0
T. Thompson, Esq.	21	5	0
W. Armitage, Esq.	20	0	0
Miss Bentley	20	0	0
Messrs. Wells and Perry	20	0	0
Chas. Curling, Esq.	20	0	0
Mr Waghorne	20	0	0
W. Greig, Esq.	20	0	0
Apsley Pellatt, Esq.	20	0	0
S. Fletcher, Esq.	10	0	0
Seth Smith, Esq.	10	0	0
Eusebius Smith, Esq.	10	0	0
Mrs. Gray	10	0	0
Robt. Maynard, Esq.	10	0	0
Messrs. Olney and Sons	10	0	0
Rev. Dr. Reed and friends	10	0	0
Mr. Bousfield	10	0	0
G. Hadfield, Esq.	10	0	0
Mr. Nottidge	10	0	0
Mr. Rudelhoff	10	0	0
Mr. G. Isod	10	0	0
Jas. Douglas, Esq.	10	0	0
Rev. T. Fletcher and friends	10	0	0
Rev. T. Aveling and friends	11	1	6
Rev. B. H. Kluht and friends	6	0	0
Rev. A. E. Lord and friends	5	0	0
Rev. Dr. Cooke	5	0	0
Rev. Dr. Hamlin	5	0	0
Mrs. Salusbury	5	0	0
Mr. Morse	5	0	0
James Buchanan, Esq.	5	0	0
A Friend, per James Buchanan, Esq.	5	0	0
Sir Morton Peto	5	0	0
Sir William Lowthrop	5	0	0
Sir Culling Eardley, Bart.	5	0	0
H. Rutt, Esq.	5	0	0
Mrs. Elliot	5	0	0
Mr. Brown	5	0	0
Mr. French	5	0	0
T. Piper, Esq.	5	0	0
Mr. Barton	5	0	0
Jacob Russell, Esq.	5	0	0
Philip Corstairs, Esq.	5	0	0
J. Crossley, Esq.	5	0	0
Mrs. Bentley	5	0	0
Mrs. Purvis	5	0	0
Thomas Farmer, Esq.	5	0	0
John Cropper, Esq.	5	0	0
Titus Salt, Esq.	5	0	0
James Medwin, Esq.	5	0	0
Edward Swaine, Esq., and friends	5	0	0
F. U. Johnstone, Esq.	5	5	0
Mr Gregory	5	0	0
John Snow, Esq.	5	0	0
J. Kershaw, Esq., M.P.	5	0	0
Messrs. Humphrys	5	0	0
Mr. and Miss Currie	5	5	0
Mr. B. A. Tomkins	5	5	0
James Blackett, Esq.	5	5	0
Jn. Humphreys, Esq.	5	0	0
Rev. J. Davies, and Mr. Davies, jun.	8	0	0
Wm. Edwards, Esq.	5	5	0
Rev. G. Clayton	5	5	0
Rev. J. Stoughton	5	0	0
Rev. Dr. Harris	5	0	0
Rev. Dr. Vaughan	5	0	0
Rev. G. Smith	5	0	0
Rev. N. Hall, LL.B.	5	0	0
Rev. S. Martin	5	0	0
Rev. W. Tyler	5	0	0
Rev. James Sherman	5	0	0
Mrs. Sadler	5	0	0
Mr. Rideal	5	0	0
Rev. J. A. James	5	0	0

NEWSPAPER STAMP PENNY

EDUCATION. — FOLKESTONE. — CARLISLE HOUSE ACADEMY, conducted by Mr. EDWARD BAYLY, offers superior advantages to Parents desirous of placing their Sons in an Establishment where they would enjoy the care and comforts of a Home in connexion with the discipline of a School. The situation of Carlisle House in the best part of the Town, within five minutes' walk from the Cliff, combined with the well-known salubrity of the atmosphere, render it a desirable residence for Youths, who, while pursuing their studies, require the stimulus of bracing sea air. The course of instruction includes the usual branches of a sound and liberal Education.

For terms, &c., apply as above.

MR. FRANKLIN RECEIVES a FEW YOUNG GENTLEMEN to BOARD and EDUCATE. Latin, Greek, and French, English Reading, Arithmetic, and Mathematics, with other subjects included in a sound and liberal education, are carefully taught. The arrangements made for the training and comfort of the pupils are designed to meet the views of those who desire for their children, chiefly, Christian character and cultivated tastes. The terms are from Forty to Sixty Guineas per annum. Reference may be made to gentlemen whose sons are now at the School, as well as to gentlemen formerly themselves pupils; to the Rev. T. R. Barker, Springhill College, Birmingham; S. Stone, Esq., Town Clerk, and T. J. F. Hollings, Esq., Leicester, &c., &c.

Leicester, December, 1856.

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL, PECKHAM, SURREY, is adapted for first-class Mercantile Instruction, and supported by leading firms in London and the Provinces. Every Pupil is, as far as possible, well grounded in English, made to write a hand fit for business, and taught to be quick at Accounts. Further study is also liberally provided for. Youths are specially trained for the requirements of the Civil Service, or to pass the Examinations proposed by the Society of Arts.

A few Boarders are received, and several hours a-week extra instruction afforded them. The terms are moderate, including all those charges which often make the real very different from the apparent cost of education.

Omnibuses from different parts of the City pass the door of the Middle School at frequent intervals. Prospectuses may be had from the Principal,

J. YEATS, F.R.G.S.

GROVE HOUSE ACADEMY, BRILL, BUCKS.

Very few Scholastic Establishments have met with such a large share of patronage as that at Grove House. A want long felt has now been supplied, i. e., a respectable academy to which Parents can send their Sons on reasonable terms, without numerous and expensive extras, and, at the same time, feel sure that they enjoy every comfort. The unusual success and continued increase of the School, prove not only that the exertions of the proprietor have hitherto been completely successful, but also have shown the necessity of still greater exertions on his part to produce an establishment suited to, and equal to the demands of, the present age. A change of Schools being acknowledged by all to be most pernicious, it is his desire to provide for all classes of Pupils, so that young gentlemen may COMMENCE and COMPLETE their EDUCATION at Grove House. With this view an extensive and commodious building has been taken, to be used entirely as a PREPARATORY SCHOOL for LITTLE BOYS UNDER TEN YEARS OF AGE, and the present building will be retained for the more advanced Pupils. It is confidently expected that this division of study will produce great and beneficial results.

Brill is one of the most healthy spots in the kingdom. This is proved by the fact that no case of serious illness, or contagious disorder, has ever occurred at Grove House. Brill-hill, upon which the village is situated, commands a most delightful and extensive prospect of 200 miles in circumference.

TERMS.

THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL, 18 Guineas per annum.
THE UPPER SCHOOL, 20 „ „

This sum includes all those items generally charged as extras, requisites, &c. The following are some of the advantages of this establishment: Sound teaching, constant oversight, absence of corporeal punishment, parental kindness, unlimited supply of the best provisions, spacious and lofty rooms, and healthful locality.

If desired, the Pupils are allowed to write to their parents without being required to show their letters to their teachers. No better guarantee for proper treatment can be given.

References to Parents of Pupils in all parts of the kingdom; also, if required, in France and Germany.

A Prospectus will be forwarded on application to the Principal, Mr. W. C. Clark, Grove House, Brill, Bucks.

THE CAMBRIAN and UNIVERSAL LIFE and FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. Capital, 100,000*l.* Established 1849.

OFFICE, 27, GRESHAM-STREET.

Agencies in the principal towns of England and Wales.

This office offers the benefit of assurance in all its branches and is highly eligible for every description of life assurance.

A new and most important feature entirely originating with this Company, viz., Marriage Dowries, Life Assurance, and Deferred Annuities, included in one policy.

Rates of premium moderate.

Annuities granted. Family endowments.

Loans on personal and other securities.

Forms of proposal and every information may be obtained on application By order,

ALFRED MELHADO, Manager.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

32, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

Incorporated 1847, under Act 7 and 8 Vic., c. cx., and further Empowered by Special Act 15 Vic., c. lii.

ACCUMULATED FUND, 100,000*l.*

DIRECTORS.

JOHN GOVER, Esq., Chairman.
ROBERT J. MILLAR, Esq., Vice-Chairman.

Bennett, Charles, Esq. | Gardiner, B. Webb, Esq.
Bunnell, Peter, Esq. | Groser, William, Esq.
Burton, John Robert, Esq. | Lewis, George Cyrus, Esq.
Cartwright, Richard, Esq. | Pratt, Daniel, Esq.
Sanders, Joseph, Esq.

AUDITORS.

Burge, George William, Esq. | Porter, Joseph Long, Esq.

BANKERS.

UNION BANK of LONDON, TEMPLE-BAR.

SURGEON—JOHN MANN, Esq.

SURVEYOR—THOMAS TURNER, Esq.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. WATSON and SONS.

RESULTS OF TEN YEARS' BUSINESS.

8,910 Policies issued, insuring 1,787,305*l.*; annual income, 50,000*l.*; profits divided, 28,000*l.*

Pure Mutuality without personal liability.

All the Profits belong to the Members, and are divided Triennially.

Profits paid in Cash, added to the Assurance, or Premiums Reduced, at option.

Advances granted to Members on their Policies to the extent of their Office value.

Invalid Lives Assured at equitable rates.

Funds employed in Advances to Members on adequate security.

Policies granted on the Half Credit System.

All Members entitled to Vote at the Annual Meetings of the Company.

JAMES INGLIS, Secretary.

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL PLATE-GLASS INSURANCE COMPANY, 37, LUDGATE-HILL, LONDON.

Established 1854.

LASS of every description may be protected by the Company's Policies, and from its connexion with the Glass Trade, the utmost promptitude may be relied on in effecting replacements. Information respecting the rates will be supplied upon application to THOS. DRAKE, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

To secure the ADVANTAGE of THIS YEAR'S ENTRY, PROPOSALS must be LODGED at the HEAD OFFICE, or at any of the Society's Agencies, on or before the 1st MARCH.

POLICIES EFFECTED ON OR BEFORE 1ST MARCH, 1857, WILL RECEIVE SIX YEARS' ADDITIONS AT THE DIVISION OF PROFITS AT 1ST MARCH, 1862.

THE SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

Instituted 1831.

At the Division of Surplus at 1st March, 1856, a Policy for 1,000*l.*, effected at 1st March, 1832, was increased to 1,571*l.* 18s. 10d., being at the rate of Two and a Quarter per cent. per annum on the Sum Assured. This addition may be converted into a present payment, or applied in reduction of the future Premiums.

Profits are divided Triennially, and belong wholly to the Assured.

Accumulated Funds . . .	£1,000,000
Annual Revenue . . .	169,400
Existing Assurances . . .	4,764,949

Copies of the Report by the Directors on the Division of Surplus in 1856, and all information, may be had on application at the Head Office, or Agencies.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Manager.
WM. FINLAY, Secretary.
HEAD OFFICE—26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.
OFFICE IN LONDON—26, POULTRY (E.C.)
ARCHD. T. RITCHIE, Agent.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL LIFE ASSURANCE and GENERAL ADVANCE and DEPOSIT COMPANY.

Incorporated under 7 and 8 Vic., c. 110.

CAPITAL, 100,000*l.*, in Ten Thousand Shares of 10*l.* each.

22, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS,

DIRECTORS.

MIERS, THOMAS, Esq., Cockfosters, East Barnet, Chairman.
CUTHBERTSON, F., Esq., Aldersgate-street, Vice-Chairman.
BURGESS, JOSEPH, Esq., Keene's-row, Walworth.
GARDINER, B. WEBB, Esq., Princes-street, Cavendish-square.
GOVER JOHN, Esq., Eagle-cottage, New Kent-road.
GROSER, WILLIAM, Esq., Hemingford-villas, Islington.
LINDSEY, MARK, Esq., 264, Borough; and Camberwell.
MANN, JOHN, Esq., Charterhouse-square.
PRATT, DANIEL, Esq., Cuckfield; and Bolt-court.
SILVESTER, H. R., Esq., 18 and 19, Dover-road.
TOWNSEND, H. M., Esq., 75, Newington-causeway.

AUDITORS

FREEMAN, GEORGE S., Esq., George-street, Camberwell.
WILLS, JOHN, Esq., Doctors'-commons, and Reigate.

BANKERS.

THE UNION BANK of LONDON, Princes-street.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. WATSON and SONS, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.

SECRETARY.—SAMUEL GREEN.

FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED and NINETY THREE Shares in this Company have been already issued, making the Share Capital at present subscribed, 43,930*l.* The Company has also received upon Deposit, 26,985*l.* 13s. 4d.

ADVANCES made to Borrowers during the year ending September 30 last, amounted to 23,282*l.* 18s. 5d.

The Income has enabled the Directors to declare DIVIDENDS of SIX PER CENT. PER ANNUM on the paid-up SHARE CAPITAL—a rate of Dividend which they have every reason to believe will be maintained. The DIVIDENDS are paid in JANUARY and JULY.

Applications for the remaining Shares may be made to the Secretary, Samuel Green, Esq., at the Offices of the Company.

By order, SAMUEL GREEN.

LIFE ASSURANCE AGENCY.—The Directors of the ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY are prepared to receive applications from respectable parties for Agencies in towns where they are not represented. For particulars, apply to the Secretary at the Chief Office.

H. B. TAPLIN, Secretary.

25, Cannon-street, City.

ANNUITIES.—Annuities, Immediate and Deferred, are granted by the Directors of the ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY, to parties of every age, on equitable terms. The following are illustrations of the Rates:—

Amount of Immediate Annuity granted for every 100*l.* paid to the Company:—

Age.	£ s. d.
30	5 18 8
40	6 12 8
50	7 11 5
60	10 7 0

The general advantages offered by this Company will be seen on an investigation of its Rates of Premium. It offers to the Assured the security of a large subscribed capital, combined with all the advantages of a Mutual Assurance Office—Eighty per cent. of the Profits being divided among the Policyholders every five years.

The RATES of PREMIUM, which have been calculated by the Consulting Actuary, are based upon the latest and most approved corrected Tables of Mortality, and will, therefore, be found lower than those adopted by other and earlier institutions.

DIRECTORS.

EDWARD MIALL, Esq., M.P., Chairman.

Col. Lothian S. Dickson. | J. Bishop Culpepper, Esq.
Adolphus Baker, Esq. | Henry Francis Home, Esq.
R. S. Ashton, Esq. | James Toleman, Esq.
Thos. Houghton Burrett, Esq.

BANKERS—COMMERCIAL BANK of LONDON.

STANDING COUNSEL.

ROBERT PORRETT COLLIER, Esq., Q.C., M.P.

SOLICITORS.

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CONSULTING ACTUARY—JENKIN JONES, Esq., F.I.A.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 20TH NOVEMBER, 1856:—

Number of policies issued in the year	1,050	
Annual premiums thereon	£17,412 18	
Total number of policies issued	19,617	
Annual income on 14,337 existing policies (after deducting 33,348*l.*, abatement of premiums at the last division of profits in 1852)	£201,383 5 2	
Interest on capital	57,352 2 0	
Total annual income on 29th Nov., 1856		£258,735 7 2
Balance of receipts over disbursements in the year		£140,556 8
Making the amount of capital		£1,351,606 5 11
Arising exclusively from the premiums paid by the members, who are themselves the sole proprietary, and among whom alone the whole profit is divided		
Amount paid in claims by life policies, since the establishment of the institution in December, 1835		£609,161 11 11
Amount returned to the assured in abatement of premiums in the seventeen years ending Nov. 20, 1852		£240,134 11 8
Additions to policies by way of bonus		£126,564 0 0

At the last Division of Surplus Profits, made up to November 20, 1852, the reductions varied from six to eighty-nine per cent. on the original amount of Premiums, according to the age of the member, and the time the Policy had been in force; and the Bonuses ranged in like manner from fifty to seventy-five per cent. on the amount of Premiums received during the preceding five years.

The next DIVISION will be made up to the 20th November, 1857.

No charge made for Policy Stamps.

Loans granted on the security of the Society's Policies to the extent of their value.

Members whose Premiums fell due on the 1st January are reminded that the same must be paid within thirty days of that date.

The Prospectus, with the Report of the Directors for 1856, may now be had on application at the Office.

Jan. 15, 1857. JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVII.—NEW SERIES, No. 587.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28, 1857. PRICE { UNSTAMPED 5d / STAMPED ... 6d.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

THIS meeting, which had been looked forward to with the greatest anxiety by most members of the Independent body, and by not a few of other denominations, came off, as our readers are aware, on Tuesday and Wednesday in last week. It is not our intention to summarise its proceedings. Indeed, were we to consult our own taste, we should allow our report to appear without a single word of comment. As, however, our silence would doubtless be misconstrued, we have deemed it better to make a few observations, more especially as there is, at length, reasonable ground of hope that "The Controversy" is at an end. We were not present at the meeting on either of the days through which it held its sittings. But having carefully read all the printed reports of the proceedings, and corrected or confirmed the impressions derived from them by personal converse with several who were present, we hope we are not disqualified from forming or expressing a correct judgment on the general result.

The first thing that strikes us in connexion with the entire course of discussion is—we will not say the unreal, but—the highly artificial and technical channel within which it was made to run. Everybody present was aware that the very necessity which had compelled the assembling of the Union at this unwonted season had been created by a state of things out of doors to which it was disorderly to allude, and by a servant of the Union who, because he had raised a tempest in his individual, and not his official, capacity, was held to be exempt from censure in that place. The ignoring of what has agitated the Independent Churches for many months past, and the nice distinction which drew a line of demarcation between the responsible Editor of the publications of the Union, and the irresponsible Editor of a newspaper beyond their control (both editorial chairs being occupied by one and the same man), may possibly have commended itself to the committee and the meeting as the only available way of escape from a calamitous scene, and will, perhaps, generally be thought to be justified by the result. But it seems to us a somewhat dangerous precedent; because, consistently applied, it would place beyond responsibility to, and even inquiry by, the Union, whatever incongruities or immoralities their servants may be guilty of, so long as they are not committed in the official service of the Union. Nor was the effect altogether such as might have been desired. For the constraint under which it placed the wisest and most trustworthy as well as the weakest and least so, was such as to give an air of diplomatic reserve to a meeting of Christian brethren, and to make its proceedings appear to many, as they did to Mr. Binney, "hollow and unsatisfactory." Neither the wisdom nor success of this straining of "the constitution" commends itself to our judgment; the plain English of it being this—that the character and conduct of its own servants—of those whom it appoints to *offices of trust*—are *nothing to the Union* except in so far as they may relate to official work; and that an enforced silence on both, even in a matter which calls for a careful and dispassionate consideration of them, is morally preferable to the risk of unpleasant collision. On the whole, then, we take this decision, first of the committee, and afterwards of the meeting, to have been a radical mistake—a confusion of ideas between the competency of the Union to deal with the moral fitness of their own servants, and its incompetency to act as a court of appeal for Independent Churches or individuals. The motives which led to its adoption were, no doubt, amiable—but we think it not at all impossible that the far-seeing wisdom which recommended the step may hereafter be disproved by events.

Having expressed the grave doubts we entertain as to the propriety of the decision above alluded to, we are the more free to record our satisfaction with the substantial issue of the two days' deliberations. We think we are not misstating the vastly preponderant opinion of the meeting when we say that the hideous phantom which has been recently conjured up to terrify the simple, and to glorify the prowess of our Evangelical Jack-the-giant-killer, is nothing but a scare-crow, devised by the head, and dressed up by the hand, which now boast of having beaten it. So far as the Churches and ministers of the Independent denominations are concerned, this "Negative Theology," which has been denounced in such a long string of vile epithets, is nowhere to be found. The Chairman had not discovered it. The Secretary had never caught a glimpse of it. The meeting utterly disbelieved its intrusion within the bounds of Independency. And even the very man who had done battle with it, was obliged to confess that his giant was a windmill. Talk of a vote of censure! Why the severest vote of censure which the Union could have passed, was one indignantly declaring their disbelief of the evil about which such a tempest in a tea-pot has been industriously raised. Is it then to lay an ogre which has no existence but in one man's fancy, that there has been such an outpouring of pious wrath, such unsparing damage attempted to be done to the reputations of good men, such solemn callings of Heaven and earth to witness, such an unshrinking resort to all the machinery of detraction? And now that the thing comes to be grappled with, under all the disadvantage too of technical restraints, and is found and proclaimed to be a delusion, if not something worse, does he who raised this bug-bear fail to perceive that its exposure, as such, is the heaviest condemnation that could be pronounced on his conduct? What on earth has he been about during the last six months but dealing blows right and left against this creature of his own brain, and hitting in his blind fury, some of the best and foremost men among us?

But although there is no such "Negative Theology" as we have heard so ruthlessly denounced, and so unceremoniously ascribed to every man whose influence it was thought desirable and feasible to crush, it is not to be imagined that this dusty tempest of indignation, was raised and directed against a pure non-entity. No! it was the disposition to which we referred in our very first article on this "Controversy," and which the Chairman of the Union had the manliness to greet with approval—the disposition to discriminate the grand verities of the Christian faith, the facts and doctrines of Holy Writ, from the human systems and metaphysical deductions which have been confounded with them, which the recent onslaught was really intended to annihilate. This disposition, as we then intimated, is becoming prevalent among our thoughtful divines. So far from being negative, however, its aim and tendency are conservative. So far from being new, it is a return to antiquity. So far from being heresy, it is what the Church in the earliest and purest ages accounted orthodoxy. It could not be put down as being what it *really is*—and therefore a bad name was invented for it—and that bad name was justified by ascribing to it almost every possible and imaginable form of unbelief and malignity. In a word, it was called Germanism—and to thousands of good men as ignorant of the theological literature of Germany during the last ten years as they are of the geography of the moon, this was sufficient to invest it with preternatural terror—like the blue light which is shed upon the ghost when he rises through a trap-door of the stage. The Union knew how to distinguish between the reality and the fiction, and in disproving the existence of the latter, have done true service to the former.

The resolution to take steps for severing the Magazines from the Union is, no doubt, wise and necessary, as, possibly, it will also be found to sever the Union from its affiliated societies. But when that is done, it occurs to one to ask, of what use will the Union be? It seems absurd to keep on foot a great organisation with nothing *to do*, and for purposes only of fraternal converse. Our own opinion is, that if the Union is to continue to exist, it must greatly alter *the objects* to which its efforts are directed. We can conceive of some things needing to be done, in the advantages accruing from which all the Churches of the denomination would share, but which cannot be done at all except by some such organisation. It should be the business of the wisest and most far seeing members of the Union to discover these general wants of the whole body, and so to frame their Society as to supply them—in short, to find out what needs to be done for the good of the whole, and what the Union can do better than any other association. After eliminating from their *programme* the work which they cannot perform satisfactorily, they will be in a better position to ascertain and undertake what they can.

TREGELLES AND "HORNE'S INTRODUCTION."

Dr. Samuel Prideaux Tregelles has published, in a contemporary, a long letter in vindication of his conduct in connexion with the new edition of "Horne's Introduction," to which the *Londonderry Standard*, which has criticised the new edition of "Horne" at considerable length and with much ability, as well as vindicated Dr. Davidson, publishes a reply. The following is an extract from the article in question:—

Throughout his letter, Dr. Tregelles speaks of Dr. Davidson's views of Divine Inspiration as "*newly* adopted," as being "*new* opinions," "*new* doctrines," &c., whose publication, for the first time, had taken him by surprise, and had constrained him to clear his conscience by means of a public protest. Now, in this said protest, Dr. Tregelles professed a large *acquaintance* with Dr. Davidson's former publications, contrasting the latter with his volume of "Horne's Introduction," and imparting to his charge an expressive severity founded upon the contrast alleged. This assertion of Dr. Tregelles must, therefore, have been either *true* or *fictitious*, as originally put forward. If true—that is, if he were *really* familiar with Dr. Davidson's writings—he cannot possibly have been ignorant of this author's views of Divine inspiration, these views having been plainly declared in his "Sacred Hermeneutics," and in his "Introduction to the New Testament;" so that the protest of Dr. Tregelles assumes, on this hypothesis, the character of a sham, got up for a special object. If, on the other hand, he asserted a fiction, being *ignorant* of Dr. Davidson's published doctrines, he committed an immorality in the avowed service of religion, after the example of Fielding's old woman, who stole a Bible from sheer love of holiness! From one or other of these alternative it is impossible for Dr. Tregelles to disengage himself, and both are fatal to his reputation. The letter before us places this gentleman in a still worse dilemma than before, because, in addition to his previous knowledge of Dr. Davidson's works, he had confessedly *read* our first article, and from this source alone he must have learned the truth—namely, Dr. Davidson, in his late volume, had advanced *no* "new doctrine"—that, on the contrary, he had merely *repeated* opinions published by himself twelve years before, and opinions, moreover, which have been held by the most eminent British divines of all Evangelical denominations. In reiterating the charge of novelty, as he incessantly does throughout the strange epistle before us, Dr. Tregelles must be deliberately making statements which he knows to be utterly without foundation in fact and in truth. How any man of common understanding, after reading our extract from Bishop Burnett's Exposition of the Thirty-nine Articles, our references to other British writers, or even Mr. Horne's adopted quotations from Bishops Gray and Tomline, could gravely sit down and talk about "*new* doctrines" broached by Dr. Davidson, is a moral phenomenon beyond our comprehension. A loss of memory, so miraculous as to be incredible, is necessary to account for this phenomenon, and we are consequently forced to

some other explanatory conclusion. So far as Dr. Davidson is concerned, there is no innovation in the case, as his printed works testify; and as to the theory itself, it is at least as old as St. Jerome, who, in principle and even in practice, carried it as far as Dr. Davidson has ever done. Besides, the manifest aim and object of Dr. Tregelles are to excite against Dr. Davidson the "*odium theologicum*"—to get up a cry of "heretical pravity," embittered by the Papal element of "novelty;" and, though the latter is proverbially only a vulgar prejudice, still it is worth refutation when history is against it. If there ever existed a man imbued with the pure spirit of Bible Christianity, that man was Richard Baxter, of whom it has been justly said, that the proverbial epithet, the "Holy Baxter," like the older one, "the Venerable Bede," is just the verdict which a seraph "full of eyes within and without" might be expected to pronounce after having deliberately reviewed the whole history and works of the "sage of Kidderminster." Now, it can be no disparagement to Dr. Davidson to stand in the same category with the "sage of Kidderminster;" and, in the year 1674, according to Dr. Calamy, but in 1681, according to the title-page of our copy of the book, Richard Baxter published a massive Latin folio, entitled "Methodus Theologiæ Christianæ," &c., specially dedicated to ministers, students, and others anxious for a systematic acquaintance with the doctrines of the Bible. "This book," Dr. Calamy says, "cost him the most pains by far of any of his works. He was a great many years about it. It cost him one way or other about 500*l.* the printing, for he was forced to print it at his own charge. And after all, 'tis generally esteemed so abstruse and scholastical that few have been willing to be at the necessary pains to understand it." This, then, in Baxter's own estimation, was the great work of his life; and now let Dr. Tregelles, in his theological wisdom, note the fact as a commentary upon Dr. Davidson's "*new* doctrines," that, in the "Methodus Theologiæ," Baxter has elaborately discussed the subject of Divine inspiration, combatting with all the force of his genius the *verbal* theory, and maintaining in opposition to it a doctrine substantially coincident with that now held by Dr. Davidson! We cannot possibly make room for quotations; but let any curious reader, who may have access to the book, consult Pars III. cap. 12, Quæst. 3, 4, 5, et sequent and cap. 15. pp. 126, 127—200, &c., and he will see what were the matured opinions of Baxter upon this misrepresented question.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER.—We stated a few days ago, that the Bishop of Exeter, having been appealed to by Archdeacon Moore Stevens, had condemned the conduct of the Rev. R. Roper in placing a huge evergreen cross over the altar at St. Olave's Church, Exeter, and other decorations in evergreens, on Sunday. Since then a long correspondence has taken place. Mr. Roper appealed to the Bishop, stating that one of the churchwardens, who had been consulted, made no objection to the "ornaments," and that the church has been so decorated for many years. He further stated, that the originators of the proceeding against him are not parishioners, one being reputed a "white witch or fortune-teller." Thereupon the Bishop blamed the Archdeacon for having made public the letter without informing himself of the accuracy of the representations made to him, especially whether Mr. Roper acted with or without the concurrence of the parishioners in general.

TRACTARIANISM.—The Rev. W. J. Bennett, vicar of Frome, formerly of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, has addressed a letter to his diocesan, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, in which he avows his entire sympathy with Archdeacon Denison. He further says—"When I see a brother priest and dignitary of the Church in our own diocese suffering, or likely to suffer, the penalty of deprivation, because he has taught a certain doctrine of the Catholic faith, and in my conscience I find that I myself am teaching the very same doctrine without any perceptible shade of difference, it is quite impossible that, while the penalty of the law is carried into effect in his case, I should stand by in silence and be held harmless." He therefore prays investigation into his own case.

RECTORY OF ST. GILES'S.—We believe that it is finally decided that the Rev. A. W. Thorold, senior curate of Trinity Church, St. Marylebone, is to be the successor to the Bishop of Ripon in this important living.—*Herald.*

"DISESTABLISHMENT."—A controversy under this significant heading is going on in the *Guardian*, the drift of which may be gathered from the following extract from a letter signed "A Layman":—"With A Nottinghamshire Clergyman, I believe that we are not yet ripe for disestablishment, while I also believe with him that its time will probably come, whether we wish it or not. It may be long in coming, for revolutions both religious and political are generally long in preparation, though they come suddenly at last. I would, therefore, earnestly invite your readers not to allow this change to come upon them unawares, but by discussion and consideration to endeavour to mitigate the evils which must necessarily accompany its blessings. That such evils would be light in comparison with those which arise from the Church's present position—*e.g.*, the legislation of false teaching within her fold, and the elevation to her highest posts of authority of men unfitted by their incapacity, their ignorance of theology, and their adoption of an imperfect and often erroneous system of doctrines, to bear rule—must, I think, be evident to many who have the courage to look disagreeable facts in the face."

THE MARKET FOR CHURCH LIVINGS.—On Thursday, at the auction mart, Messrs. Norton, Hoggart and Trist, auctioneers, offered to public auction, the advowson of the vicarage of Crondall, Hants, pursuant to an order of the Court of Chancery, made in the cause of the Attorney-General, against the master and brethren of St. Cross Hospital, near Winchester. The net annual value of the living was stated to be 476*l.*, the value in the King's book 22*l.* 5*s.* 7½*d.*; and the vicar for the time being has the right of presentation to the perpetual curacy of Christ Church, Crookham, of the net annual value of 60*l.* The first bid made was 1,000*l.*, and it was knocked down at 2,750*l.*

THE BIBLE TRANSLATION QUESTION.—M. Bunsen, we hear, is engaged at Hiedelberg upon his new translation of the Bible for the people, with a complete commentary, two volumes of which will appear this year, together with an introductory philosophical work, entitled "God in History." The first volume of this work has already appeared, and is said to be creating a great sensation. It is being translated by Miss Winkworth.

THE CHURCH-RATE QUESTION.—A committee of laymen, consisting of Sir J. Pakington, M.P., the Marquis of Blandford, M.P., Lord John Manners, M.P., Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P., Mr. J. Napier, M.P., Mr. Adderley, M.P., Lord Robert Cecil, M.P., Sir Brook Bridges, Bart., Mr. Smith Child, M.P., Mr. J. E. Colquhoun, Mr. G. A. Hamilton, M.P., Mr. H. Hoare (banker), Mr. N. Kendall, M.P., Mr. R. D. Seeley, Mr. Spooner, M.P., and others, has been formed, in consequence of an announcement recently made by the Attorny-General that the Church-rate question would form one of the first measures for discussion and settlement in the ensuing session. In an address they have issued, they say:—"This will render it necessary for every exertion to be made to prevent Parliament legislating on the subject without full knowledge of the opinions and wishes of the people. The committee trust that Churchmen will enable them to act with vigour and efficacy in resisting any proposal to despoil the Church of one of her most ancient sources of income." [The *Morning Post* conspicuously states that the announcement attributed to the Attorney-General appears to rest on "an entire misconception." In his address to his constituents, Sir Richard Bethell "mentioned the support which he had given to the introduction of the ballot, the abolition of Church-rates, and the removal of Jewish disabilities; but beyond this he has made no announcement on the subject alluded to in the paragraph."]

ANOTHER VICTIM OF PAPAL INTOLERANCE AT MADRID.—A letter from Don Jose Vecino to M. de Mora, written in the Saladero, or common prison, and dated "Madrid, Jan. 6, 1857," has been published, in which the writer says:—

On the night of the 30th of last month, the Inspector of Police, with three policemen, came to my house, made a thorough search, and took possession of all my books and papers, and amongst them several copies of "Andrew Dunn," and "The Sinner's Friend," with others of the same kind; and while taking the books, they took me also, carried me away to the station-house, and there made me write my name in them. Thence they led me to the common prison, where I still remain, but as yet they have not subjected me to any examination, nor have I been able to get any further information as to the cause of my imprisonment, and know not how this affair will end. But I presume that the cause of the search must have been some interception of letters between you and your wife, containing mention of myself, with allusion to our work of *propaganda;* or that it has been through some trick of the Jesuits, who are not ignorant of my efforts in the cause of the Gospel, and of my intimate friendly relations with yourself, and these circumstances have roused their vengeance, which they are always so ready to indulge.

Religious Intelligence.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOLS, LEWISHAM.—The following is the report of the Rev. Dr. Spence, who has lately been engaged in examining the classes connected with the Congregational School:—

I have this day examined the various classes in the classical department of the Congregational School, and have much pleasure in presenting the following report: In Latin, the 1st class read various passages selected *ad libitum* from the I. and II. books of the Æneid of Virgil. The 2nd class read passages from the I. book of Cæsar, "De Bello Gallico." Both these classes were somewhat severely questioned on many points in the construction and syntax of the language. The 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th classes were examined respectively in M'Gowan's II. Reading, in Henry's Second, and Henry's First Latin Book, and in the grammar. In Greek, the 1st class read passages in prose and poetry from the Edinburgh Academy's Greek Extracts; and the 2nd class read passages in the same book, but in a less advanced stage; while the 3rd class were examined in the grammar so far as they had gone. In Greek, as in Latin, various questions were asked to test the knowledge of the pupils in the grammar and structure of the language. On the whole, I was highly gratified with the appearance which the boys generally made. Several of them in the higher classes gave evidence of an acuteness, a diligence, and an accuracy creditable to themselves, and indicative of much skill and care on the part of their teacher. In all the classes there were proofs of thorough drilling in the elements, which is so essential to true progress in classical learning. So far as this department is concerned (and with it alone I had to do), I saw abundant reason to congratulate the supporters and friends of this very useful institution on its present state of efficiency and promise.

KINGSGATE (LATE EAGLE-STREET) CHAPEL, HOLBORN.—The friends of the cause so long and so beneficially carried on in Eagle-street, will be glad to learn that its progress in the new chapel, recently opened, is most gratifying, and that the efforts making to meet the payments due to the builders and others have met with very encouraging success. The friends engaged in collecting held their quarterly tea-meeting on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at which the Rev. Francis Wills presided, and, after prayer by the Rev. Mr. Etheridge, the various sums collected during the quarter, amounting together to 133*l.*, chiefly in small sums, were handed in to the treasurer, Mr. Crassweller, who stated that there were payments coming due, in this and the next month, amounting to about 800*l.* more than the committee had funds to meet, and earnestly pressed upon the friends present renewed efforts to raise the amount required. In this appeal the chairman and other members of the committee joined, and various suggestions were made with a view to aid the endeavours now making to discharge those liabilities, and it was resolved unanimously to issue debentures for loans of from 5*l.* to 50*l.* each, bearing interest at five per cent. per annum, and payable at a month's notice. The friends present joined in approving of this plan, and debentures were agreed to be taken to the amount of upwards of 400*l.*, chiefly by the members of the Church and congregation. It was also proposed and agreed to unanimously, to commence forthwith a weekly penny subscription for paying the interest on the sums borrowed, and towards repaying the debt incurred in the erection of the new chapel and school-room, and it was hoped that a considerable sum would be realised by this humble effort, in which all, without exception, might unite. The opportunity was likewise taken of congratulating both the pastor and his flock on the great increase of the congregation since the opening of the chapel, which increase has been more particularly marked since the commencement, in November, of a series of lectures by Mr. Wills on the Book of Daniel. The Sabbath-school also has considerably increased.

RAMSGATE.—SERVICES IN THE THEATRE.—On Sunday, January 18, the Rev. B. C. Etheridge delivered the last of a course of Sunday afternoon addresses to the working classes in the Theatre, Ramsgate. The building was crowded in every part, as it had been on all former occasions, chiefly by persons who are not in the habit of attending any place of worship. The whole of the expenses were defrayed by a gentleman who feels deeply interested in the welfare of this class of people; so that the placard announcing the meetings stated "all seats will be free, and no collection." The subjects of the addresses were the "Common Salvation," the "Prodigal Son," the "Brazen Serpent," and the "Sure Foundation." The style adopted by the speaker was clear, simple, and earnest, and free from all theological technicalities. The meetings were conducted with as little ceremony as possible; a few words of prayer at the commencement, and closing with the doxology. From the marked attention paid to the addresses, each of which occupied an hour, and from the increased interest shown by the people, it is believed that much good will result, and that such services are calculated to meet the feelings of that large class of our countrymen who, for various reasons, never enter our places of worship.

SPURGEON'S MISSION HALL AND SCHOOLS.—On Thursday night, a numerously attended meeting was held in New Park-street Chapel, in support of the Mission-hall and Schools in connexion with the chapel under the ministry of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon. That gentleman took the chair, and was greeted most enthusiastically. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Fletcher, and other ministers and gentlemen, on the great good the Institutions and their minister were accomplishing. A handsome subscription was announced.

SURREY CHAPEL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—A public meeting was held in the chapel on Monday evening, January 26, which was very numerously attended, chiefly by working men. The Rev. Newman Hall, L.L.B., presided, and said that Temperance was at the root of all other philanthropies. It was a good work to remedy, it was a better to prevent evils. It was good to clothe and feed and educate the poor; it was better to help them to do all this for themselves and to make them self-reliant. But the drinking habits of the people kept them down, and were the chief impediment to Evangelical labours, for drunkards seldom came within the reach of religious teaching. Mr. Cort, a working blacksmith, delivered a very eloquent speech on public-house signs. Mr. Ayerst, a cerman, was received with loud demonstrations. He said he had been a terrible drunkard for twenty years, but had within a few months become an abstainer through reading the chairman's "Scriptural Claims of Teetotalism." In illustration of the debasement to which drinking had brought him, he said that his daughter, then present, nineteen years old, had never seen her mother's wedding-ring till now; for soon after marriage, he had compelled his wife to sell it, in order to procure additional means of gratifying that base passion. He was now sailing happily in the temperance ship, and invited all present to join him. Mr. Murphy, missionary to the working men of Southwark, addressed the meeting, and at the close a large number of the sons of toil, in their fustian coats, and with hands hard and discoloured with honourable labour, came forward to sign the pledge.

THE REV. JAMES COUTTS, of the Baptist College, Regent's-park, has accepted the cordial invitation of the Church in Zion Chapel, Chatham, to become their pastor. He entered on the sphere of his labours on the first Sabbath in January.

THE REV. SAMUEL HARRIS BOOTH, late of Falmouth, has accepted the invitation of the congregation worshipping in the Craven-rooms, Birkenhead, and will commence preaching there on Sunday, Feb. 15th. It is intended to build a chapel, and to form a Baptist Church on open communion principles, with as little delay as possible.

THE REV. THOMAS ROBERTS, of Brackley and Charlton, has received and accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the Church at Wendover to become their pastor, and commenced his labours there with the new year.

Miss Nightingale, accompanied by her aunt, Miss Smyth, visited the Royal Naval Hospital at Haslar, last Tuesday, and made a minute inspection of the whole establishment, with the organisation of which Miss Nightingale was pleased to express her entire approval.

Correspondence.

MEMOIR OF THE LATE DR. HARRIS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to make, through your columns, the following announcement and request. Having been entrusted by the executors of my lamented friend, Dr. Harris, with the duty of writing the memorials of his life, I have felt that the claims arising out of an intimate friendship, and a fellowship in labour, for a long course of years, ought to overpower my sense of unworthiness to discharge so great and sacred an undertaking.

I beg, therefore, to make an earnest and respectful appeal to the kindness of all who are able to help me in this work, by the communication of letters and other papers, and of facts and reminiscences, either for publication or for information only.

I remain, dear Sir,
Your faithful servant,
PHILIP SMITH.

Mill-hill School, Hendon,
Middlesex, N.W.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

We resume our report of the special meeting of the Congregational Union at New Broad-street Chapel, which broke off in the middle of Wednesday's sitting. It will be recollected that at the opening of that day's proceedings the report of the committee, nominating twenty-five gentlemen as a committee to whom the question of the separation of societies and magazines from the Union, and other matters should be referred, was brought up, and a resolution proposed that the following gentlemen should constitute the committee—London: Rev. H. Allon, Mr. T. M. Coombs, Rev. J. Kennedy, Mr. S. Morley, Rev. J. Stoughton, Mr. James Spicer, Dr. Tidman. Country: Rev. J. Alexander, Mr. E. Baines, Rev. Dr. Brown, Mr. J. Cripps, Rev. E. Conder, Rev. T. W. Davids, Rev. H. M. Gunn, Rev. Dr. Halley, Rev. J. A. James, Rev. J. Kelly, Rev. A. Jack, Rev. J. Parsons, Rev. E. Mellor, Rev. S. M'All, Mr. H. O. Wills, Mr. Perry, and Mr. W. Willans.

After an expression of opinion from the Revs. W. Parkinson, T. Binney (the latter challenging Dr. Campbell to meet him with some friends to talk over what Mr. Binney had done to carry out the proposal of the Conference committee) and other gentlemen,

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL addressed the assembly, and on rising was received with cheers. He said that since the commencement of circumstances to which reference had been made, he had the satisfaction of feeling that he had not uttered a word of which a gentleman and a Christian need be ashamed—(cheers and interruption)—and he trusted he should now say nothing unbecoming the character of that assembly. He regretted the injury which had been done by the controversy, but surely they were not to blame who for months had kept silence under continued misrepresentation. He felt greatly surprised at the tone of remark yesterday, as it seemed unreasonable that when the controversy had come before the Union in May; when a meeting was held in the autumn, the resolutions of which were reported in the Year Book of the Union; and when that controversy was the cause of the special time and place for holding the present meeting, no reference was to be made to it. He agreed that the controversy should not be introduced there, but for the fact that one of the combatants was their official editor. (Hear, hear.) If the public conduct of an officer of the Union could not be taken into consideration there, he must express his astonishment. For his own part, however unimportant the avowal, he must, by this second protest, free himself of all responsibility in the continued connexion of the present editor with the magazines for a single day longer. (Cheers and disapprobation.) The committee should be instructed that although yesterday it was said that the consent of the editor to abide by the decision of the committee, should be obtained beforehand, yet that the editor was the servant of the Union, and as such must abide by its decree, willing or unwilling. (Cheers and uproar.) Whereas it had been said that his disapproval of the magazines had been publicly expressed. The committee should understand that this did not prove that no disapproval was felt; and Mr. Brown for one had expressed disapproval. (Disturbance.) For himself, he could say nothing of the magazines, as some years had elapsed since he read them, but the public estimation could be judged from the circulation and profits, which, if he had not been misinformed, had much decreased during the last few years. (Uproar.) If he were mistaken, the secretary could inform the Union how much the circulation and profits had increased. As statements had been diligently made that the vote respecting the magazines would be for or against a negative theology, the committee should be instructed that this was not the case; for any alteration respecting the periodicals or their editor would be no sanction to what they all hated and condemned. (Loud cheers.) He wished to express his own earnest desire to see the magazines separated from the Union, in order to avoid those painful discussions to which they must always otherwise be liable. Multitudes around them were perishing, the victims of drunkenness, ignorance, and misery, and instead of petty squabbles in the Union, they ought to be consulting together about plans of practical efforts in doing good. For this reason he wished the magazines and societies disconnected. Before they separated he hoped a resolution would be passed to this effect—that there was no controversy in the Union respecting the fundamental truths of Evangelical Christianity, but that they expressed their emphatic condemnation of defending the truth they held in common, in any other spirit than that of its Divine Founder. (Loud cheers.)

Several ministers and gentlemen then expressed their sentiments. The Rev. W. HEMMINGS said: Suppression of controversy was dangerous. It was said that the controversy should now be buried. He hoped not; anything was better than stagnation. (Cheers.) But let it be settled externally to the Union. Mr. T. E. PLINT, of Leeds, saw no insuperable difficulty in the association of literary organs with the Union, for he considered that they and the societies did honour to the Congregational body. If the Union could not work harmoniously with the magazines and with these different societies, whose fault was it? Mr. G. SWAINE desired to see the magazines detached, for so long as an annual vote of thanks to the editor was necessary, there was danger of collision. As to the periodicals themselves, if people said they were not what they ought to be, pray where was the model magazine? He should like to see it. The societies formed no part of the constitution of the Union, and therefore he was prepared to let them go. The Rev. Dr. GORDON, of Walsall, confessed he did not read the magazines himself; but he was thoroughly satisfied with them, because they were appreciated by the classes for whose benefit they were intended. They were evidently doing much good. (Cheers.) Rev. J. DAVIS (Rochester) wished the committee to be unfettered by any instructions. Rev. H. J. GAMBLE advocated the separation of the magazines, not on personal grounds, but upon the experience of ten years. Personal attacks on editors and secretaries were very undesirable, and he would be no party to any resolution implying censure or reproach.

The Rev. H. BATCHELOR, of Sheffield, urged a definite conclusion on the subject of the magazines. The position Dr. Campbell held as moral critic and theological censor of the body, came from the suffrages of the Union. He did not think the editor had wholly mistaken his mission. He (Mr. Batchelor) declared the soundness of the orthodoxy of the young ministers. He was a lover of systematic theology; and he believed that no set of men could remain long together without it. He feared that injury would be inflicted upon students and other young men in the body, if there was any attempt to garotte or throttle them into orthodoxy. He thought they had had too much of the tomahawk and scalping-knife. (Cries of "Question.") He himself had once hated moderate Calvinism, but he had lived to change his opinions. He asked for patience towards his younger brethren. Depend upon it, the earnestness of pastoral work and personal sorrow, would give the right direction that was needed.

Mr. ASHTON thought it would be better to give instructions to the committee to revise the whole constitution of the Union? The Rev. GEORGE SMITH explained, that the vote of Tuesday had already settled the question. After some further conversation, the names were read seriatim, and no objection being taken, the resolution was unanimously adopted. Mr. ASHTON still pressing his opinion, Mr. SMITH urged that the committee were not to be bound by any instructions, and the Revs. J. ALEXANDER and T. JAMES concurring in the same view, the matter dropped.

There being no resolution before the chair, the meeting resolved itself for a time into a friendly conference, and Mr. PIDDUCK, of Hanley, addressed the assembly at some length, upholding the theological soundness of the Congregational body. After some remarks by Mr. BAINES and others, Rev. A. REED expressed a hope that the conversation might be brought to a close, fearing lest new matter for discussion might spring up. The Rev. J. B. PATON, of Sheffield, wished, with Mr. Newman Hall, to adopt some resolution declaratory of the soundness of the body. He expressed a strong, tenacious love for moderate Calvinism. He challenged any man who objected to that to stand forth and say so.

Rev. W. GUEST, of Leeds, rose to propose a resolution on the subject suggested by Mr. Hall. He felt the importance of declaring, in that special meeting, the unequivocal feeling of the Union upon a subject nearest to their hearts. He did not believe there was any essential difference amongst them. They must have religious newspapers, and free criticism; but those who criticised should take heed to their spirit. The resolution he proposed was to the following effect:—

That this meeting, although not unmindful of the peculiar perils that surround Evangelical truths, and the exceeding importance of exhorting the Churches to maintain them in their fulness and purity, would, nevertheless, most emphatically and gratefully record its conviction that there is no difference of opinion among its members in reference to fundamental articles of Christian belief. Further, while this meeting will not pronounce an opinion on individuals, and has strenuously resisted the introduction into its assembly of subjects on which a difference of judgment exists among its members, it would as urgently recommend all parties to uphold and advocate the great truths which "are most surely believed among us," with very watchful regard to those principles of liberty of thought and considerate toleration, whose adoption has been a distinguishing feature and the glory of Independent Churches, and in that spirit of seriousness, explicitness, and forbearance, which become Christian men.

The Revs. F. WATERMAN, of Maidstone, and G. C. MAITLAND, of Sunderland, testified to the soundness of the New College students.

The Rev. H. J. GAMBLE moved an addition to the resolution in the following terms:—

That this meeting, while recognising the importance of freedom of discussion, and the exercise of that discussion in a Christian spirit, earnestly beseeches its members to abstain from giving the weight of their names and influence to books the Evangelical character of which is apparent to few except to those who have personal acquaintance with their authors.

(Applause, and cries of "Oh, oh.")

Dr. MASSIE thought that to pronounce the ministry to be attached to orthodoxy would be resorting to creeds. He felt it was dangerous ground. He did not say there were errors in the Congregational Union; but errors had undoubtedly been put forth by those calling themselves Congregational ministers.

Rev. GEORGE SMITH gave his hearty concurrence to the resolution. He thought the elder pastors present should speak out. He believed the terms of the resolution were literally true of those outside as well as of those who were actually present, that there were no fundamental differences among them on the peculiar doctrines of the Gospel. (Applause.) Should any one dissent, let him tell him that that Union was no home for him. Had they not been maligned and misrepresented by friend and foe? (Applause.) Had there not been an attempt to set the paw against the pulpit? Had not these charges been circulated through all the Churches, and to the very ends of the earth? And on this first occasion of their meeting, after these false statements had been made, should they not put on record the avowal of their unabated attachment to the great principles held by Watts, Doddridge, and Owen? Let those who said there was rottenness in their colleges and Churches come forth. It would be impossible to word the resolution too strongly. They would all stand by each other and the Gospel. (General applause.)

Rev. J. ALEXANDER believed the young ministers never deserved suspicion; and in saying that, he added the testimony of an old minister to his younger friends.

Rev. Dr. BURDER had listened with joy to the testimonies given on all hands that day.

Mr. MORLEY wished the resolution to say that there had been gross calumnies uttered respecting them, but they were not believed. ("Oh, oh!" and applause.)

After some further discussion, the Rev. Dr. BROWN, of Cheltenham, strongly supported the resolution, but thought the wording of it ought to be very carefully considered; and, on the suggestion of the Chairman, Messrs. Hall, Guest, Paton, McAll, and Baines, retired to revise the resolution. Mr. Morley was at first proposed as one of this sub-committee. Mr. D. PRATT said that, if Mr. Morley was to be upon the committee, he should beg to nominate Mr. J. Spicer. Mr. Morley had said some very strong things, and he objected to his being upon the committee. Mr. MORLEY positively refused to serve on the committee, and Mr. Baines was nominated in his place.

Dr. Campbell's letter, dated Dec. 1, was then read, by which it appeared that he himself had proposed to sever the connexion between the magazines and the Union. The following is an extract from that document. Referring to the Rev. J. B. Brown's threatened motion relative to the magazines, which was to have been brought on at the autumnal meeting of the Union, he says:—

That the motion still impends, and is to be brought forward at the annual meeting of next May. Now this I hold to be a grievous state of things, alike discreditable to its author and its abettors, and redounding but little to the honour of the assembly, which, in an unguarded moment, complied, when I think it ought to have resisted. The expulsion of the Editor of the *Christian Witness*, therefore, is the reward it is proposed to make to the Editor of the *British Banner* for the stand which he has made in that journal against the increase of German error. Thus the deed for which, in the opinion of many, he was supposed to have deserved well of the Church of Christ, is to be viewed and treated as an enormity, and dealt with accordingly. I have hitherto been quiet; but it now behoves me to look at it. I have done so, and the conclusion at which I have arrived is, that it is not for the interests of truth, peace, or charity, that such a state of things should continue. In my judgment, that the Editor of your magazines should be so treated, is a violation of justice and an outrage on propriety. Such scenes in the Union, moreover, obstruct business, disturb the equanimity of the members, grieve the Churches that compose the Union, and repulse those who might otherwise come into it, besides scandalising other sections of the Church, thus tarnishing the reputation of the Nonconformist body.

As a means, then, of securing justice both to character and to principle, I most earnestly beg, that no opposition may be offered to the threatened motion. It is, I think, alike due to the Editor of your magazines, to the Union itself, and to the Denomination, that a judgment be pronounced thereon. Should the vote be in favour of the motion, there will, of course, be an end of the matter, so far as the Editor is concerned; but if, on the contrary, the vote should be such as to stamp his defence of the Gospel of the Reformation, of the Nonconformist body, and of the Sacred Scriptures, with approval, then an important point will be set at rest.

Dr. CAMPBELL then rose to address the meeting, and was received with applause. He said that he expected the discussions which had taken place, and thought them very satisfactory. As to the theology, he was perfectly satisfied. As to himself, he was much gratified at the expressions of all who had objected to an implied censure, for any implied censure would have been a support to German theology. In severing the magazines, they concurred in his views. Why should they or he be tormented by the connexion? He asked two things—first, that they protect him from a vote of censure outside, and quoted Mr. Baldwin Brown's statement, that the separation of the magazines would be a vote of censure. He called for a declaration on this subject. Some one said that annually the meeting had been disturbed by the magazines. That statement he disputed. He thanked Dr. Legge for his speech on the subject of liberty. He had in the *Banner* a committee of excellent men; there was a proprietary behind him whom he feared, though they did not trouble him much. He wished to live, and labour, and die with the Magazine Committee. He felt it a great thing to serve the Independents; but he felt it a greater thing to serve the Nonconformists, out of the Union as well as in it. He should not be surprised if he doubled the circulation of the periodicals. There was a member who spoke last night, who, he understood, said elsewhere, "He rejoiced that not a single copy of the magazines went into his congre-

gation." There were few here, he believed, who could go to that extent. There were, at least, some good things in the magazines. (Hear, hear.) He hoped the brethren would receive his thanks for the means they had put into his hand of promoting the cause of God in this land; and in thanking them, he asked that whatever changes might take place—and there must be a change, or he could not go on——(hear, hear)—that the committee would take that as an "instruction." He could not endure the idea of establishing separate magazines. (Loud applause.) He hoped that the last article he should ever write would be for the *Christian Witness* or the *Penny Magazine*. (Applause.) He wished to die in this blessed work. (Hear, hear.) Set him free, and he asked no more. (Cheers.) When this was done, they would have a little more spirit in them. (Hear.)

The Sub-Committee here re-entered, and recommended that the resolution passed at the September meeting should be re-affirmed as follows:—

That various charges of unfaithfulness to the sacred principles of Evangelical truth having recently been made against the body of Congregational ministers, this meeting deem it incumbent to express their deep and deliberate conviction that such imputations are unfounded and unjust; and they hereby record their assurance, that the ministers of our Churches, as a body, maintain an unabated attachment to those great Christian principles on which they have been incorporated from the time of their formation; but, while the meeting would earnestly commend a faithful adherence to the essential truths of the Gospel, and a prominent and unmistakable exhibition of them in the pulpit, they would earnestly desire that a charitable construction should be put upon the terms in which they are expressed, and that they should, on all occasions, be maintained and vindicated in a Christian spirit.

Votes of thanks were afterwards passed to the London friends for their hospitality; to the pastor and deacons of the chapel, for the use of the building; and to the chairman.

The Rev. J. STOUGHTON said he was deeply grateful for the vote. He had felt great anxiety and much imperfection in himself. He rejoiced in the unanimity of the meeting, and highly commended the conduct of the Rev. George Smith, the secretary, to whom, with Mr. Ashton, a vote of thanks, moved by the Rev. T. SCALES, seconded by the Rev. S. MCALL, was unanimously passed.

The doxology was then sung, and the meeting finally separated.

DEATH OF THE REV. DR. MEDHURST.

(From the *Patriot*.)

It has pleased the Great Disposer of human events to visit the London Missionary Society with a severe and sudden loss, in which the whole Evangelical Church of Europe and America will deeply sympathise. Ours is the melancholy task of announcing the decease of the Rev. Dr. W. H. Medhurst, who expired on Saturday night, at half-past eight o'clock, only two days after landing in his native country. This distinguished missionary departed this life at his lodgings, 17, Cambridge-street, Pimlico. He arrived in London on Thursday, in a state of extreme exhaustion; as he was obliged immediately to betake himself to bed, from which he never rose. Dr. Risdon Bennett saw him on Friday afternoon, and again on Saturday; but medical skill was unavailing. He became insensible on Saturday morning, and continued in that state until the hour of his death; but he appeared to be quite free from suffering, and his last moments were perfectly tranquil. His age was sixty-one.

Dr. Medhurst was first appointed to China in 1816, and had consequently spent forty years in that important portion of the missionary field. Trained under the eye of the illustrious Morrison, he was the Elisha on whose shoulders the mantle of that Elijah fell; and well was he worthy to enter into the labours of so great a prophet. After residing at Malacca and Penang for several years, he settled at Batavia; where he collected a congregation and built a chapel, in which he formed a Church on a basis as catholic as the constitution of the Society which sent him out, and including every variety of Protestant profession that the colony presented. When, in after years, he entered China Proper, it was with the same determination to merge national and denominational predilections in the higher objects of the missionary enterprise, where the united efforts of different denominations would be all too weak to grapple with the prejudices and superstitions of almost countless ages. In 1835, he was called upon to undertake a journey along the south-east coast of China, with a view to ascertain how far the country might be open to the reception of the Gospel. Many of our readers will remember the striking accounts which he gave during a subsequent tour through England of the results of his observations and inquiries. After John Williams, no returned missionary, perhaps, has excited so wide and deep an interest as Dr. Medhurst; as no modern narrative of missionary adventure, that of the Martyr of Erromanga excepted, has been more eagerly and extensively read than that which the eminent evangelist whose loss we now deplore gave to the world, under the title of "China; its State and Prospects, with special reference to the Spread of the Gospel." It comprehends a succinct, yet most interesting account of that marvellous country and people, their antiquity, manners, literature, and religion; and it also contains some notices of the more ancient, as well as a fuller account of the more recent, labours of Protestant missionaries; and, while affording ample proof of the writer's title to the confidence of the great society as its leading representative in China, it has become a text-book for all who take an active part in the evangelisation of her teeming millions.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

On Monday evening a crowded public meeting of freeholders and other electors of West Kent was held at the Lecture Hall, Woolwich, for the purpose of hearing an address from C. W. Martin, Esq., explanatory of his political principles as a candidate for their suffrages. The chair was occupied by F. Bennoch, Esq., and Mr. Martin, at some length, avowed himself an advocate of an extension of the suffrage, a repeal of the income-tax, a total and unconditional repeal of Church-rates, and of reforms in the army, navy, and civil service. In reply to questions, Mr. Martin said he was opposed to the ballot, and in favour of a continuance of the Maynooth grant. Several electors expressed themselves strongly in favour of the ballot, and ultimately a resolution was unanimously adopted, pledging the meeting to support Mr. Martin at the ensuing election. A similar meeting has been held at Greenwich, at which Mr. Whitehurst and other members of the Ballot Society were present, but not being electors could not be heard. A numerous meeting of the supporters of Sir W. B. Riddell, the Conservative candidate, was held at Maidstone, on Thursday afternoon, at which Viscount Holmerdale presided.

The Board of Inland Revenue have restored Mr. Falvey, the distributor of stamps at Southampton, to his position, and great satisfaction has been felt throughout the town at the fact. Mr. Flavey was suddenly suspended about three weeks since, some one having lodged a complaint with the Board of his having spoken at one or two election meetings in support of Mr. Andrews, and none of the events of the present protracted election contest have given birth to more irritation and bitterness of feeling.

There are three candidates in the field for Colchester, likely to be vacant by the resignation of Lord John Manners, who is to stand for Leicestershire, in place of his brother the Marquis of Granby, now Duke of Rutland. Mr. Rebow, of Wivenhoe-park, on the side of the Liberals, and on the part of the Conservatives—Mr. Hamilton, the barrister, who resides near Romford, and Mr. Miller, the late member for Maldon.

The Marquis of Queensbury is about to retire from Dumfriesshire, and Lord Henry Scott, son of the Duke of Buccleugh, has been nominated as a candidate in his stead. At a numerous and influential meeting of electors, on Wednesday, it was unanimously resolved to get up a requisition inviting Mr. Hope Johnstone, of Annandale, a Liberal.

MR. ROEBUCK AT LIVERPOOL.

On Thursday evening, Mr. Roebuck, the member for Sheffield, was present at the annual public meeting of the Liverpool Financial Reform Association, held in the Concert-hall, Lord Nelson-street, which was filled with an attentive audience. Mr. L. HEYWORTH, M.P., was in the chair, and on the platform were some of the influential members of the association. After a brief speech from the chairman, the Secretary read the report of the operations of the association, which recommended perseverance in the effort to bring to a successful issue the combined objects of financial reform, direct taxation, and perfect freedom of trade.

Mr. DAWSON moved the first resolution, which was:—

That the beneficial results of the fiscal changes introduced by the late Sir R. Peel—changes rendered practicable by a partial adoption of the principles of free trade and direct taxation—are evident in the immense development of the resources of the country thereby permitted, and demonstrate the sound policy of extending the operation of these principles in such a manner as to secure still greater freedom to commerce, manufactures, and industry.

He pointed out that as the country had now reached the termination of a period of unusual expenditure, some of the existing taxes might be dispensed with, and that they had to decide where the reduction might most fitly be made. He found that 23,000,000*l.* a year, or nearly half the annual revenue of the Government, was already raised by direct taxation, and he asked if that policy should be continued?

Mr. CROSSFIELD briefly seconded the resolution, which was put and carried by acclamation.

Mr. ROEBUCK then proceeded to address the meeting, and was received with protracted and deafening applause. Concurring with the association in the main, and holding that in the manner of levying the Income-tax some approach should be made to equality between the tax on permanent and precarious incomes, he proceeded to expound the views and objects of the Administrative Reform Association,—the forming of an independent party in Parliament, the exposure of that corruption to be found from "the very top to the bottom of standing permanent departments," action to the utmost directed "to effect the coming elections." He said:—

We ought not to be meeting here, gentlemen. We have people whom we choose every seven years, whose business it is to do the duties we are now doing. I want to know what the Parliament in Westminster sits for? (A Voice—"That's the point.") Do they sit there to look on while we work? What is it we are doing now? We are going into the very discussion into which Parliament ought to go night after night. We have our power, because the mischief has risen to such a height that people won't stand it any longer, and they take this extraordinary mode of expressing their opinion. Now, what I want to do is this: I want to get at some effective instrument to work out the purposes which we are endeavouring to do in this extraordinary and, if I may use the term, spasmodic effort. How is that to be done? Why, Sir, the House of Commons ought to be the watch-dogs of the people. Now, what I want to do is to make our House of Commons fit and willing to perform its duty; and therefore I say, Sir, that you cannot expect to have any real financial reform until you have had parliamentary reform. I have persuaded the Administrative Reform Association of that fact, and the consequence is, we have determined that all our organisation, spreading over England as it does, all the various means we have of influencing public opinion, are to be directed to that end, as well as to the direct aim of the association. And what we intend to do is this: first of all, to persuade the people that the great mischief lies in the present constitution of the House of Commons, and to bring your minds round to demand a full reform of that House. We intend—and here I am making a bold declaration, and it may, Sir, probably alarm you—we intend to do our utmost to affect the coming elections of this country; and from that we intend to direct our efforts to the formation of a real party in the House of Commons, whose business and aim it will be to act as one man, and make the Ministers feel that we are reformers of financial reform—reformers after the manner of the Financial Reform Association. He (Mr. Roebuck) hoped for their co-operation, and drew a picture of the construction of the "parties" in the House of Commons, again pointing out the influences which were used by the great parties in London to secure the vote of Mr. A for Ministers. The great towns of this country were given, a great number of them, the power of returning members of Parliament by the Reform Bill. They chose what they thought to be efficient representatives. These men as soon as they got to London and entered the House of Commons, found that House divided in a very curious manner. There was a line ran down it from the very middle, from the Speaker's chair; and on the one side sat the Opposition, and on the other side sat the Ministry; and it was expected that every man who came into that House should take the one side or the other. There (continued the honourable gentleman) it is, indeed, a fact—there are a certain wild, impracticable, wonderful set of men called independent members. (Laughter.) They wander about in space, like a planet that has no sun round which to revolve. They go about they know not where, and they find themselves in strange places they know not how. (Laughter and applause.) The Minister and his satellites—(a laugh)—make their situation a very uncomfortable situation. Rejected from the Ministerial side, they go to the Opposition, and there they meet in the same way, with "What do you belong to, and what do you mean?" and if you don't swear in the words of one party or the other, you are, in the slang phrase, "nowhere." (Laughter and applause.) The consequence of this is, that when these very simple gentlemen come from the north, they find themselves as I say—nowhere. They do not know what to do; and Mr. A brings up Mrs. A and Mr. A is affected through the means so very well known how to be employed by the great parties in London. Mr. A is affected through Mrs. A. Oh! I have seen it, and I have known it so often—that Mrs. A wanted to go to the Queen's ball. The way to get there was to make Mr. A vote with the Minister; and when he voted with the Minister she received her invitation. ("Hear, hear," laughter, and applause.) I am not speaking, Sir, without my host upon this matter; I know well what I am saying; and I have known instances of cajolery of this kind, of mean appliances of this description, of this sort of low and disgraceful means by which to reach a man's head and his heart, quite as debasing as the one I have described.

He (Mr. Roebuck) wanted to point out through the Administrative Reform Association every time in which a man thus actually departed from his duty and betrayed his trust to the people, and he believed that they could do that by means of that organisation. He believed they would do much good by instructing the people. Yet if they got to learn in that way the feelings of the people upon their representatives they would do much more to carry financial reform than all the pamphlets they might publish.

I know, Sir, that real honest and distinguished mercantile houses refuse to have anything to do with Government contracts, because they were obliged to preface their proceedings by bribing the departments. (Hear, hear.) I am not now speaking in a whisper. What I am now saying I see the gentlemen below will tell to the people of England. And I am as sure of this as I am of my own existence—that from the very top to the bottom of the standing departments, the permanent departments, of this country, there is corruption to be found. I want this exposed. It can only be done by a united effort on the part of the people of this country, acting through the House of Commons, and upon the House of Commons. I would ask and entreat of you to bear this in mind, that we are acting now, here in this hall, in what I would call in the cant phrase of the day an abnormal condition. It is not our proper business to undertake the business of the House of Commons; but we ought to have a House of Commons which would supersede such meetings as this. [The honourable gentleman resumed his seat amid vociferous applause.]

Several other gentlemen addressed the meeting, and moved resolutions approving the principles of the association, which were unanimously adopted. A petition in favour of direct taxation was prepared, which, after obtaining the signatures of the inhabitants, is to be intrusted to the care of Mr. J. C. Ewart.

MR. MIALL, M.P., AT ROCHDALE.

Mr. E. Miall, M.P. for Rochdale, addressed a large meeting of his constituents, in the Public-hall, Baillie-street, on Friday evening last. JACOB BRIGHT, Esq., mayor of the borough, presided, and introduced the hon. member in a rather lengthy speech.

Mr. MIALL was received with hearty cheering, and after expressing the pleasure he had in meeting his constituency, explained his attendance at the divisions of the House in reply to the statements put forth by the Administrative Reform Association. The hon. member then reviewed the past session, which he characterised as singularly barren of results. Of the 130 or 140 public measures passed, the Limited Liability Bill, the Cambridge University Reform Bill, the County Courts Amendment Bill, and the Police Bill for Boroughs, were the only ones which appeared to him of great public importance. As valuable measures which had been introduced, and either withdrawn or rejected, he instanced the Local dues on Shipping Bill and the Bill for the Abolition of the Oath of Abjuration. He then proceeded to speak of centralising measures,

and animadverted upon the tendency amongst those in office to get up central boards in London. After condemning the retirement bill of the Bishops of London and Durham, the Church Discipline Bill, and the Appellate Jurisdiction Bill, and having referred to the Maynooth grant, which he regarded as a sop to the Roman Catholics to save the Established Church, he remarked that the only way of dealing with the subject was by such a motion as that he made, for the disendowment of all religious bodies in Ireland, and the secularisation of the revenues. He intended to bring forward a similar motion next session, and he expected he would be able to record 150 votes in its favour. Turning to the future, he observed Parliament would meet on the 3rd of February, and Lord Palmerston, in a circular, one of which he had received, hoped the members would be in their places, as business of great importance would have to be disposed of. He had not the smallest doubt of it, and he fancied business would assume an amount of importance which it had not hitherto assumed in Lord Palmerston's eyes. (Hear, hear.) He could not say whether an amendment would be moved to the address, but he thought it extremely probable that a notice of motion would be given to test, within a fortnight, if possible, the opinion of the house upon the Persian war. Whenever a nation or an individual had to spend the whole of his time in carrying on enmities with his neighbours, they might depend upon it there must be some great mistake at home. (Hear, hear.) If they were to be continually involved in disputes with distant countries, their domestic legislation would soon go to the dogs. We were an insular people; then why should we be continually interfering with the affairs of our neighbours? Look at our Palmerstonian policy. We had had two wars, two occupations, and one unsuccessful armed demonstration. We had already taken possession of the port of Bushire, and had sent an army of 5,000 strong, beyond the north-west, to penetrate into the central regions of Asia, for the purpose of driving the Persians out of Herat. He would be bound to say there were not twenty persons in that room who knew where Herat was, or cared either; yet we were involved in a war that might possibly cost us as much money, and very nearly as much bloodshed, as that which had just happily closed. Nobody knew what it was about, but the best informed said it was about a lady. (Laughter.) It was not a matter of laughter, though it assumed a ridiculous aspect. Feruk Khan, the ambassador from Persia, was now at the court of Paris, armed with sufficient authority to make full explanation and apology, if necessary, for the siege of Herat, and the only point of difference was respecting an apology which our Government demanded should be paid to Consul Parkes, because he gave refuge to a Persian lady who had fled from the persecution of the court of which she was a member. Were the sweat and labour —and he might say, the blood of the working men of England—to be thrown away about a quarrel of that kind? There were some wars they could understand; and he had no doubt it would be said this war would conduce to open up to the commercial market the central parts of Asia. He would ask men of commerce if they wanted cannon to make markets for them, or whether they would not rather depend upon their own commercial enterprise? He trusted there would be sufficient manliness in the representatives of this country to let the Government know they would have none of this meddling with the affairs of other nations. (Cheers.) Then there was another subject —the bombardment of Canton. He believed a quarrel had been sought with the Chinese, in order that force might be resorted to, because all the force was prepared before the incident occurred which had been seized hold of, and they found at last that the pretext would not avail them. It appeared now that they intended to bombard the city itself, containing a million of inhabitants, as thickly enclosed as the inhabitants of any town in this country. Only think of the barbarism of the thing, that they should fire into such a mass of people, just as if he were to stand there and ask those before him to fulfil his desires, and, if they did not, to let off a pistol loaded with swan shot right at their faces, they being unable to protect themselves against the outrage. He protested against it, not only in the name of Christianity, but in the name of humanity, and for the sake of our good name over the world. They must not for a moment allow these practices, worthy only of the old buccaneers of the fifteenth century. ("Hear," and cheers.) He took as deep an interest in the propagation of liberal principles on the continent as anyone. He wished from his heart that Italy were united and free; he wished from his heart that Hungary could stand up again an independent nation—(loud cheers); —he wished from his heart that Poland were alive; he would do all that lay within his power as a man to bring about, by what he considered legitimate methods, these great and grand results. But were we to be interfering continually between monarchs and subjects? Were we to be the policemen of Europe, and policemen, too, that not only kept order in the streets, but ventured into the houses of other people, and intermeddled with their private business? We might sympathise with an oppressed people, but if we took the Quixotic course of attempting to set right everything wrong on the Continent, what would become of the earnings of the working-people of England? We had an alliance with France; but did France want to promote Constitutional Government in Naples? Was France in favour of extending liberty amongst her own people? He did not like this country to be going arm-in-arm with a despotic monarchy, threatening other countries. He looked upon all this as the policy of despotism, and not the policy of freedom. The demonstration was intended not so much to act against the sovereign as to keep down the people. He protested, therefore, that he could not sympathise at all with our foreign policy, and he did not think it was intended to promote liberty. What was the result of our interference? There was no constitutional liberty in France, Austria, Prussia, or Spain. Despotism was more triumphant in Europe than it had been since the treaty of Vienna in 1815. As our prosperity increased, so would wars, unless the people kept their eyes open to the stratagems of the aristocracy, for they could not stand a twenty years' peace with the prospect of the growing enlightenment of the people of this country. The aristocratic institutions in Church and State would not stand a twenty years' examination, so war must be had to divert the attention of the people, and firebrands were thrown in amongst them to kindle their worst passions. The consequence was, great standing armies, and the suppression of opinion amongst the nations of the continent. Let us mind our own business, and we should have plenty to do at home. On these principles he intended to act, and his vote would be given in condemnation of any policy which would tend to wasteful expenditure and bloodshed. He thought the appropriate business of next session would be, in the first place, a re-adjustment of our taxation to the altered circumstances of the country. He was not for doing away with our defensive armaments. He thought our army and navy ought to be kept in a most efficient condition, but he did not believe having a larger army than was necessary, and wasting millions upon millions in our navy yards, was the proper method of keeping up these branches of the public service. Why should they keep a large multitude of people preying upon the public resources, under the pretext that we are preparing against war? They would want to know a little about the Income-tax. He was in favour of direct rather than indirect taxation, but the Income-tax had been raised under a promise that the additional ninepence should be taken off within the year after the conclusion of peace. He hoped the majority of the House would show that they were against the Government on this point, and that if it was to be a permanent tax it must be levied fairly; that temporary incomes must not be levied at the same rate as permanent ones. His own disposition was to retain a property tax, levying that tax upon all property the hand could be put upon, and not upon incomes. In order that we may be taxed rightly, we must have reform. How had the Rochdale people forgotton this subject? The war had put it out of their heads. His principles had not at all changed. He claimed for men to be represented simply as men, and not as possessing so much property. He claimed that every man should be able to give his vote as his own, and not at the dictation of somebody above him. The people would not get reform until they spoke out themselves. Until the people began to stir it was impossible to produce the slightest impression upon the House of Commons. He hoped the time was not far distant when the distinction between electors and non-electors would be done away with, and he should be able to address all of full age coming into that hall to receive his annual exposition of his political conduct as fellow-citizens with himself. (Loud cheering.)

In reply to questions, Mr. Miall expressed his conviction that, though the deliberate murderer deserved death, he believed that perpetual imprisonment would be a more effectual punishment. With reference to the ticket-of-leave system, he thought it possible to make prisoners in this country self-supporting under a proper system, and he thought there should be a great distinction drawn between offenders who were corrigible and those who were plainly incorrigible. As to education, he thought that people determined to get it for their children would glory in the result of that education far more than if it had been provided for them at the public cost. Still he was open to conviction, and he did not suppose he was likely by his voice to prevent a public measure of education if the House of Commons thought it feasible. He objected to a Maine Liquor-law as an interference with individual independence.

A motion of satisfaction with Mr. Miall's political conduct, and confidence in him as representative of the borough, was then carried unanimously.

THE INCOME-TAX.

DEPUTATION TO THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

On Friday some forty gentlemen, representing the Property and Income-tax Association, recently embodied in the metropolis, with Major Reed, M.P., at their head, had an interview by appointment with Sir George Cornewall Lewis, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, at his official residence in Downing-street, to urge on him the immediate cessation of the part of the Property and Income-tax imposed for the purpose of the war, and for a more equitable adjustment of the remaining portion as it bears on incomes derived from trades and professions. The deputation included among others Mr. Deputy Barnard, Mr. Jacob Bell, Mr. J. A. Nicholay, Mr. G. W. Elt, Mr. H. Potter, Mr. T. Lovick, Mr. G. Walter, and three representatives from Huddersfield, Reading, and Ipswich.

Major REED, M.P., introduced the deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the subject of their visit. In the course of his remarks the honourable gentleman referred to the statement of Lord Panmure, the Secretary for War, that the war estimates would be twenty millions less next year. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER—It was the undiminished estimates he referred to.

Mr. DEPUTY BARNARD, Mr. NICHOLAY (Marylebone), Mr. JACOB BELL (St. Pancras), Mr. SHAW (Huddersfield), and Mr. GOWING (Ipswich), also addressed the right hon. gentleman in similar terms.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made the following reply:—

Gentlemen, I had great pleasure in fixing a day for this meeting, and I shall have now equal pleasure in giving you all the information in my power on a subject in which the country feels so great an interest. The question has been brought before me in a very temperate and proper statement, and I have no doubt, looking to the means of information which we all possess, that that statement represents feelings now very prevalent throughout the country. I am afraid I must begin by saying that in order to give a full answer to your questions, it would be necessary to enter into lengthened explanations relative to the revenue and expenditure of the country; in short, to anticipate the annual financial statement which it will be my duty to make to Parliament alone. I cannot, consistently with my public duty, anticipate the nature of that statement—(hear, hear);—but, nevertheless, I will offer such remarks as may be in my power in answer to your statement. The observations which have been made turn upon two question; first, as to the nature of the tax itself; secondly, as to its present amount. As to the tax itself, you say that it is inquisitorial, and makes no distinction between permanent and precarious incomes. This objection has been stated not only on the present but on former occasions, and would go to the very essence of the tax, whether it is five, seven, or sixteenpence. Therefore, I do not see that there would be any advantage in my going on the present occasion at any length into that question. I am quite aware of the objections. I have stated my opinion on a proposed differential duty in parliament, and on the graduated scale between permanent and precarious incomes. It appears to me that the difficulties in the way of the proposed distinction are not sufficiently estimated by the public, but I do not wish to go at length into that question. (Hear, hear.) This much, however, I will say, that I shall be perfectly ready to consider any facts or arguments that may be laid before me, and any detailed plan for the purpose of carrying those views into effect. But you must be aware that the great difficulty of arranging any plan of taxation consists in the actual scale to be adopted. The present tax raised last year no less a sum than sixteen millions, and you must be aware that it would not be easy to propose any tax raising so large a sum that would not be open to some complaint. It is not to be expected that any tax raising so large a sum within the year should not have some objections. I am afraid that those gentlemen who talk of a perfect system of taxation will, when they come to levy such large sums, find the reality very far short of their anticipations. Now, to come to the more particular point. I will begin at once by saying to you that you must discharge from your minds the notion that Government wishes to tax the country more than may be necessary for the public service. We have no wish to take advantage of any words in an act of parliament for the sake of continuing a tax that is not necessary. I shall now call your attention to the taxes which were created for the purposes of the war. In the case of the malt tax, the act provided that the tax should terminate on the 5th July next after the peace, and the result is that the increased tax will come to a termination at a very early period. Now, although the expenses connected with the withdrawal of troops and winding up the accounts of an expensive war are great, I do not propose to take any steps for the continuance of that tax, so that the Exchequer will lose about 800,000*l.* by that tax, besides the drawback, about a million. I mention this to show that when the law is in favour of the public we make no attempt to alter it. The tea and coffee war duties will terminate by law on the 5th April next, and no proposal was made to parliament to continue that duty any longer. It so happens that the words of the Income-tax Act continue it for a year beyond the 5th April; but all I can say is that government will not take any advantage of particular words, but will act as in the case of the Sardinian loan. (Hear, hear.) In that case we did not go on the letter of the act, but, thinking the honour of the country engaged, would not take advantage of a few days. (Hear.) We therefore proposed the payment of the additional million. (Hear, hear.) The analogy suggested by one of the gentlemen is perfectly correct, and in case of the war ninepence, the Government would not think of continuing it for another year solely in consequence of the wording of the statute. (Cheers.) Having made that statement, I must add that with regard to the rate of the income tax it is a question not of taxation, but of expenditure, the question being, what will be the expenditure for the ensuing year? With regard to the interest of the debt, there will be some little increase in consequence of the debt, but it will not be very material. There will be also two millions of Exchequer bonds falling due in the course of next year, and of course they will naturally fall within the expenses of the year. The civil list will not vary much, so that you may calculate it by looking at the estimates of former years, and the question therefore of the public expenditure next year will mainly turn on the amount of the army and navy estimates. The question is, what amount will be required for the service of the army and navy? I can only state that the estimates have been sent to the Treasury for their approbation, which wil be communicated before the meeting of Parliament; but until so communicated the Government will not be able to form a definite estimate of the expenses of the ensuing year, and on that expenditure the ways and means of the year must depend. Because, you will observe, there is this difference between the House of Commons and a private individual, that the latter, if he be prudent, first ascertains his income and then regulates his expenditure, while the House of Commons first fixes the expenditure and then deliberates on the supplies that are to meet it. Having determined the amount of supply, a committee of ways and means finds the means of meeting the expenditure. You will see, therefore, that the House of Commons must first settle the expenditure and then arrange the mode of taxation. That, gentlemen, is, I am afraid, all I can say at present, and I have spoken with as much candour as is consistent with the position in which I am placed.

Mr. HIGHAM wished again to call the right hon. gentleman's attention to the mistake in the act imposing the increased tax, and expressed an opinion that the people had a right to demand its repeal.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER assured them there was no mistake at all. The date in the act referred to the ratification and not the signature. If it had been the signature, no doubt the Act would have expired in April next; the difference was accidental. It happened that there was a very short time between

the signature and ratification, but a long period might have elapsed. For instance, between the signature and ratification of the peace at Amiens there was a period of six months; and it must be borne in mind that until the ratification no disarming took place. But nothing would turn upon the precise words of the act; the only question would be, what amount of revenue would be required to meet the expenditure of the year? But while he repeated the Government had no intention to act in a pettifogging manner, he might say there was no doubt at all that the construction of the act made the income tax payable for another year, although the Government would make no claim in consequence of the wording.

Major REED thanked the right hon. gentleman, whose statement, he thought, would justify the people in believing that the Government would deal with them in a spirit as liberal, now the war was over, as they dealt with the Government whilst it was proceeding.

The deputation then withdrew.

The meeting held at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday evening, convened by the Property and Income-tax Association was not very successful in point of numbers nor the attendance of persons of influence, though it was a genuine demonstration. Mr. Alderman Wire occupied the chair, and on the platform were delegates from about a dozen provincial towns beside the London originators of the movement. Among those who spoke were three members of Parliament—Major Reed, Mr. Thomas Chambers, and Mr. Apsley Pellatt. The country delegates were represented by Mr. Joseph Shaw, of Huddersfield, Mr. T. Attwood, of Birmingham, the Mayor of Oxford, Mr. Partridge of Birmingham, and Mr. Gowing, of Ipswich. In the resolutions adopted, the meeting did not go beyond the usual demands,—remission of the war ninepence, and an equitable adjustment of the tax on permanent and precarious incomes. But two of the speakers looked beyond: Mr. Wire wants "a revision of our whole system of taxation, so as to subject the rich to at least an equal pressure with the poor." And Mr. Pellatt desires to remove the iniquitous distinction, so favourable to farmers, so damaging to traders, of permitting the former to pay on a presumed profit in proportion to rental, and exacting from the latter a tax on income and property.

Meetings of a similar kind have been held in various parts of the country. At Dublin, at an aggregate city meeting, an amendment was carried in favour of the entire abolition of the Income-tax. The meeting at Stroud, on Thursday, is worthy of notice. Five hundred of the electors of Stroud had published a declaration that they would at the next election withdraw all support from their parliamentary representatives, unless they were prepared to vote against the Income-tax in any shape. The two members for the borough, notwithstanding this strongly-expressed opinion, appeared at a public meeting of the town to defend the principle of direct taxes. The speech of Mr. Horsman was bold, clear, and forcible. He said: "They had to choose between the continuance of the direct income-tax and a return to the system of indirect taxation which existed before Sir Robert Peel imposed the income-tax in 1842. He had not heard any one say he would like to go back to indirect taxation imposed on the consumption of the general necessaries of life. The indirect taxes on the necessaries of life fell chiefly on the poorer classes of society, while the income-tax fell on the commercial, trading, and manufacturing classes. The best principle of taxation, in his judgment, was that each man should be taxed, not according to his property, but according to his means—apportioning the taxation equally among all classes. In conclusion, he said, rigid economy in every department of the Government must be insisted on. They ought also to prepare themselves for another thing, viz.: a general revision of the whole taxation of the country." Resolutions were nevertheless adopted, denouncing the income-tax of sixteen-pence in the pound as unjust, oppressive, and injurious; that the continuance of the war 9d. tax beyond the 5th April next would be a breach of good faith on the part of the Government, that the present form of income-tax was demoralising and degrading, and totally unfit for a free country, and the meeting strongly urged the Government to make provision for its immediate amendment, and for its total repeal in 1860.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

Feruk Khan had an interview with Count Walewski on Wednesday, and presented his credentials to the Emperor on Saturday. To the speech of the Ambassador, which contained no allusion to the war with England, the Emperor made the following reply:—

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,—I am happy that your Sovereign has charged you to bring me his congratulations. When the war broke out in the East I sought with pleasure to renew our former relations with Persia, and her neutrality was not useless to us. I now congratulate myself upon the treaty of commerce concluded between our two countries, as commercial relations firmly established always cement the friendship of nations.

It is with regret that I heard of the war which has broken out between you and one of my most intimate allies, but I make most ardent wishes that your mission to this portion of the globe may hasten the return of a lasting peace.

I thank you for the flattering things you have said to me for France and for the Prince Imperial, and I beg of you to believe in my full sentiments of benevolence towards you.

The Ambassador handed to the Emperor the Royal order of Persia, and presents for the Empress and the Prince Imperial.

It is said in Paris that official despatches from Constantinople have been received this day, which in substance affirm, that in consequence of the terror struck into Persia by the taking of Bushire, the Persian Government concedes all that England asks for, and particularly the dismissal of the Shah's Prime Minister.

The *Moniteur* of Friday officially confirms the statement that, in mediating in the Neufchatel affair, Louis Napoleon has acted in reliance on a confidential knowledge of the King of Prussia's intentions, and that Switzerland may now safely disarm. The only possible meaning of this is that the King of Prussia agrees to give up Neufchatel to Switzerland.

The *Moniteur* announces that Dr. Kern, who is charged by the Federal Council of Switzerland with a special mission to the Emperor of the French, had the honour to be received by the Emperor on Sunday in the character of an envoy extraordinary, and presented his letters of credence.

The *Moniteur* also contains a decree signed by the Emperor Napoleon, and countersigned by M. Rouland, the Minister and Secretary of State for the department of Public Instruction and Worship, "nominating Monseigneur Morlot, Cardinal and Archbishop of Tours, to be the Archbishop of Paris, in the place of Monseigneur Sibour, deceased." It is stated after refusing the proffered translation twice, he accepted it when the third offer came in the shape of an earnest request of the Emperor that he would consent "as a personal favour." The Cardinal is described as "tolerant in religious opinions, and otherwise liberal;" and his translation is "generally approved, except perhaps by the Ultramontane party."

It is stated that at the instance of his advocate, M. Nogent St. Laurens, a medical commission will be named with a view to ascertain the grounds on which Verger is supposed to have been insane when he assassinated the Archbishop of Paris. On Friday afternoon, the Bishop of Meaux, the prelate who had expressed an opinion that Verger required to be taken care of in a *Maison de Santé*, paid a visit to him at the Roquette prison. Verger was very violent, and attempted to seize the Bishop by the throat. The petition which Verger addressed to the Emperor fills four pages, and displays some literary ability, but is humble and suppliant in tone. It, however, shows that the petitioner considers himself different from the rest of mankind, and believes in his own infallibility. He declares that Christianity requires regeneration, and that the inferior clergy ought to be enfranchised from the yoke of the higher. He declares that he looks on himself as a Peter the Hermit of a new crusade; and that, being determined to announce his mission by a *coup d'état*, he had selected for his victim the highest dignitary of the Church. He adds, that his condemnation to death has not surprised him, as a great judicial manifestation was required for so illustrious a death; but that that bare manifestation is sufficient satisfaction to social order, and that to go beyond it would be unjust and impolitic. He therefore prays that, instead of being put to death, he may be subjected to a *noble* and honourable exile!

PRUSSIA AND SWITZERLAND.

MM. de Pourtales and Corriolis, late prisoners at Neufchatel, have arrived at Marseilles.

In the Prussian Chambers on the 20th, M. Manteuffel alluded to the Neufchatel question. He said: "We were prepared and in a condition to sustain, if necessary, his Majesty's right by arms. But this necessity no longer exists. We are now informed that the subjects of the King imprisoned at Neufchatel have been set at liberty without any condition. It will now be possible to regulate the situation of Neufchatel by means of a European Conference."

There is a movement in Geneva and in the Canton de Vaud against the resolution of the Federal Assembly. Popular meetings are taking place in Geneva, presided over by one Perier. Some of the militia of the Canton de Vaud at Berne have shown their discontent, by wearing mourning on their caps.

BELGIUM.

Sir Robert Peel's impertinent reference to the Belgian representative at the Czar's coronation, the Prince de Ligne, having given great offence in that quarter, a list of fifteen English, who were proposed as honorary members of the "Bal Noble" at Brussels, were black-balled by the Prince's friends. Two exceptions only were made, in favonr of young ladies belonging to ultramontane English Catholic families. King Leopold has expressed extreme regret at the mode adopted to revenge Sir Robert Peel's offensive allusions.

On Monday, the 19th, a numerous deputation of the English residents at Brussels, naval, military, and civilian, waited upon the Prince de Ligne at his hotel in the Rue Royale, to declare their reprobation of the personal vulgarities uttered by Sir Robert Peel against the Prince in his disreputable speech at Birmingham. The Prince de Ligne, in warm terms, acknowledged the compliments paid him by the deputation, and observed:—

Gentlemen, believe me that I am most grateful for this your spontaneous act of courtesy and goodwill; and I am deeply sensible of the generous kindness that has prompted you thus to repel the vulgar aggression unwarrantably made upon me by Sir Robert Peel. I conjure you to be persuaded that I do not suffer the displeasuse I may experience at this low-bred indignity to affect for one instant the high respect and sincere regard long and cordially entertained by me for England and the English. The coarse verbiage adopted by Sir Robert Peel to revile me belongs only to a sot (*ivrogé*) and a blackguard (*gamin*), and as such I regard it with proper contempt; but, without seeking that personage, should chance ever place me in unpalatable contact with him, I shall not hesitate to say that his conduct towards me has been that of an under-bred good-for-nothing (*mal élevé et vaurien*). And now, gentlemen, on my part I have to express my sorrow and extreme displeasure that any countrymen of mine, and without my authority, should have used this untoward circumstance as a reason to offer you the incivility of refusing your admission to the *bal noble*. Such conduct on their part appertains to that category of social offences which we have had occasion to deplore. I have been greatly pained at such ill-bred and unworthy conduct. Allow me, gentlemen, to say that out of this unpleasant occurrence I have, at any rate, derived the pleasure of making your personal acquaintance, and of being able, in returning you my hearty thanks for your considerate attention, publicly to testify my constant and ardent regard for your country, its inhabitants, and its institutions.

PIEDMONT.

The Piedmontese Parliament, at its sittings of the 15th, debated the Cavour policy at the Paris Conference. Signor Brofferio, the Radical Deputy, opened the discussion by an assault on the conduct of the Government, and complained that more advantages were not secured to Italy by the alliance of Sardinia with England and France. He was answered, with great spirit, by Signor Farini, Count Mamiani, once a Constitutional Minister of the Pope, Signor Buffa, and Count Cavour. The Prime Minister said:—

The Congress of Paris took into consideration the state of Italy, and declared that this state ought to be improved. France and England agreed upon the subject, and the Austrian Plenipotentiary himself made no objection to it. It is now nine months since this Congress was held, and nothing since then has happened which might lead people to believe that France and England have altered their opinion. No man of sense, however, has ever believed that the Great Powers were resolved to give physical support. After the conclusion of peace, many difficulties arose about the interpretation of some articles of the treaty! and upon certain points England and Austria agreed. But I feel confident that such an agreement is far from being an alliance. Neither Lord Palmerston or the Earl of Clarendon are certainly now less inclined to the Italian cause than they were nine months ago. . . . But you exclaim, "Where are the advantages?" Behold them! If the war and the Congress have not produced material results for Italy, they have at least given it an immense moral result. Beyond the Alps, Italy was very severely judged. I appeal herein to all who have been abroad, and I evidence the unjust opinions of authors who have had sympathies for Italy, such as Byron and Macaulay. To them Italy was a beautiful but unhappy lady, having a barbarous and tyrannical husband, and unable to govern the family. The policy adopted by Piedmont, and the part she has taken in the war and in the councils of Europe, have modified public opinion. I appeal on this point to the Liberal press of France, England, and Germany, and to the opinions of those who have travelled through Europe within the last few months. To-day, with all generous hearts, an Italian or a Sardinian is beyond the Alps an object of esteem and sympathy. He who has faith in brutal force alone may laugh at such a result as a trifling matter; but it will not be so with those who have faith in progress, public opinion, and the force of ideas.

The debate did not lead to any vote, or in fact to anything but a creditable display of "parliamentary eloquence."

The Chamber of Deputies, in its sitting of the 17th, after a protracted discussion of the principle of freedom of instruction, voted an order of the day accepting the declaration of the Cabinet, that the principle should be carried into effect in a special law relative to private instruction.

A letter from Genoa of the 22nd announces the arrival there of the King of Sardinia on the previous afternoon. He embarked immediately on board the Governolo and sailed for Nice, to visit the Empress-Dowager of Russia.

LOMBARDY.

The Paris *Presse* of Wednesday evening contains the following letter from a special correspondent at Milan, dated the 16th; "At two o'clock yesterday afternoon, the Emperor of Austria made his entry into Milan. I saw everything myself, in order that I might give you the exact details. This is a *résumé* of the solemnity—a splendid official reception. A numerous crowd thronged the streets, but it was silent. The Emperor was cheered on four occasions; first, before the eastern gate, where hisses mingled with the applause; before the *Dario*, where the Government *employés* had assembled; before the palace of Princess Semailoff; and before the Hotel-de-Ville. At the theatre the public consisted of the military, functionaries, rustics, men and women—these individuals replacing for the occasion the Milanese public. "The administration had insisted upon having the keys of the palace—abandoned under various pretexts by the proprietors—and installed their soldiers, *employés*, and their families, and some other spectators of a lesser grade. At the official presentation not more than 100 persons were present; the Milanese nobility were absent almost to a man."

Count Buol Baron Bach, and Baron Bruck, are with the Emperor at Milan. It is stated that the Archduke Maximilian of Austria is appointed Governor-General of the Lombardo-Venetian States, as successor to Marshal Radetzky, retired.

It is stated that the "good reception" of the Emperor was managed by the police, who bribed the rural population to flock into Milan. Not more than three Milanese ladies attended the opera, and not more than seven-and-twenty were at court. When the Emperor arrived, the Podesta made him a most flattering speech. The Emperor speaks Italian very well, and in the hearing of many said: "I am very glad to see the city of Milan a second time. I *will* forget all that is past, and it depends on the future

conduct of the population of Milan whether they meet with my Imperial patronage."

The *Times* publishes the following despatch dated Turin, Sunday: "The Emperor of Austria to-day signed a decree granting a full pardon to all persons in the Lombardo-Venetian territory condemned for high treason, revolt, or insurrection. Prosecution for such crimes is suspended. The special court at Mantua is dissolved."

A despatch from Milan dated Sunday, is concluded in the following flattering terms: "The general amnesty has produced an immense effect. All Milan was spontaneously illuminated. At this moment the Emperor is welcomed at the Scala with the enthusiasm of gratitude."

On the very day of the entry of the Emperor of Austria into Milan a deputation of Lombard nobles arrived at Turin, offering six cannons towards the armament of Alessandria to the Sardinian Government. The deputations expressed the desire that each cannon should be marked with the words "*La Lombardia con voi.*" (Lombardy with you.)

The Emperor left for Florence on Saturday.

TURKEY.

Accounts from Constantinople of the 16th inst., forwarded by the telegraph from Trieste, announce the closing of the conferences relative to the Principalities. Ten thousand Turkish troops will occupy the Principalities during the election of the Divans, with a view to the maintenance of order. A Circassian chief has arrived at Constantinople, charged with an official mission.

According to letters from Widdin, the old Turkish judicial customs against the rajahs (Christians) are being re-established in all their rigour along the frontier of Bulgaria. A commissioner is besides occupied in making inspections respecting the kmets (local judges), and he dismisses all such as do not appear to him to be well disposed to the Turks, and he sends them to Widdin, where they are prosecuted on some pretext or other. Another commissioner, sent from Constantinople, and who is also making inspections in Bulgaria, has ordered that all the young women and girls of the villages through which he passes should go forth to meet him; and as the kmet of the village of Stakouze sent young men instead of females, the commissioner had him bastinadoed. A number of the inhabitants of this village, fearing the cruelty of the commissioner, wanted to fly into Servia, but could not be admitted owing to their having no passports.

RUSSIA.

A letter from St. Petersburgh, in the *Débats* of yesterday, says: "The English government has again raised the question of the consulates, which, according to the Treaty of Paris, ought to be established in the ports of the Black Sea. The cabinet of St. Petersburgh has declared that Russia is ready to fulfil all her engagements the moment England fulfils hers. When the English fleet has quitted the interior waters of Turkey, no obstacles will be raised to the installation of the consuls."

The *Nord* announces the occupation of Astrabad, a Persian town at the south-east angle of the Caspian Sea, by the Russians.

The St. Petersburgh correspondent of the *Constitutionnel* describes a new ministry instituted by the Emperor Alexander, with the view of introducing improvements into the agriculture of Russia.

The following semi-official paragraphs appear in the Paris *Pays*: "A private correspondence from St. Petersburg of the 16th brings important news. It appears that the Russians have obtained from the Court of Pekin the authorisation, which they have been soliciting for very many years, to trade with the five Chinese ports which are open to other nations. This favour has hitherto been withheld from Russia on the ground that, for the last hundred years, she has enjoyed a monopoly of the land trade, and has also had a legation at Pekin." The new convention is of the highest importance for Russian maritime commerce, which the Emperor Alexander's Government appears to desire to stimulate by all possible means.

SWEDEN.

General De Nardin, Swedish Ambassador at St. Petersburg, has been recalled by his Government; and rumour accounts for the fact by supposing that "some misunderstanding exists between the two Courts." It is added, that "the relations between Russia and Sweden, since the treaty concluded by Sweden with the Western Powers, have not been friendly." Russia is annoyed at the agitation for a "Scandinavian nationality," now shaking Denmark as well as Sweden and Norway.

PERSIA.

The following telegraphic despatch from Trieste has been received: "Bushire surrendered on the 9th December, after four hours' fire from the fleet, without a single casualty. Fort Bushire was captured on the previous day after a smart action. Brigadier Stopford, Colonel Malet, and Lieutenants Utterson and Warren were killed, besides about twenty rank and file. Only one officer, Captain Wood, was wounded. Karrack was occupied on the 4th December. Large reinforcements are to be sent up the Gulf."

Telegraphic intelligence has been received from Teheran, *vid* Marseilles, to the 19th December. The Shah of Persia had visited his arsenals, and concentrated his troops on the Eastern frontiers of his empire. In the Southern province he had caused a holy war to be proclaimed. Russia had taken possession of the islands of the Caspian, without the consent of Persia. Some revolted and barbarous tribes were carrying terror into several of the Persian provinces. The Imaum of Muscat was seeking to annex the province of Aloghastan to his territories.

The *Morning Post* denies "the mischievous statement" regarding Brigadier Chamberlayne's advance on Cabul, which has obtained such general circulation, and has been supposed to foreshadow an intended occupation of Afghanistan. "Brigadier Chamberlayne's force is operating against the Meeranzyes, at the express invitation of Dost Mohammed Khan, and as soon as this service is performed, it will return within our own frontier. Should it be necessary to march any force above the Passes, in order to protect the Afghans from Persian attack, our troops would of course advance from Scinde by the high road of Quetta and Candahar. At present, however, Dost Mohammed is believed to be strong enough to resist the invasion with which his territories are threatened."

The Constantinople journals of the 15th confirm the statement that the English have taken the island of Karrack and the fort of Bushire. The Persian garrison had received orders to retire into the interior. The inhabitants of the city of Bushire remained there after the entry of the English. The latter were preparing to extend their operations into the interior. Considerable reinforcements had arrived in the province of Shiraz. Mirza Khan, respecting whom the dispute originated, has renounced the English protection and the species of nationality which Mr. Murray had accorded him, in attaching him to the *personnel* of the legation. Several princes of Candahar have refused to support England, and have gone to Teheran to offer their submission to the Shah.

The official journal of Dec. 19 states that Nasar-ed-Din Shah had visited the arsenals and the magazines. In the same journal there is an account of the brilliant reception offered by the Shah to M. de Gobineau, French *chargé d'affaires*. His Majesty wished the representative of France to be seated in his presence, while the princes of the royal family remained standing.

AMERICA.

In the Washington House of Representatives a bill or reducing the duty on imports had been taken up in committee. Mr. Humphrey Marshall, in introducing the bill, gave notice in general terms that the committee contemplated bringing down the high schedules, and either abolishing or raising the low ones.

The Committee of the House of Representatives on Territories report adversely to the petition of the citizens of Carson Valley, asking for the annexation of that portion of Utah territory to California. One of the reasons for refusal is, that California is too large already, and would be made more unwieldy by such an extension to its boundaries. But the committee recommend the passage of the bill now on the calendar for the prevention and punishment of bigamy. This, they add, would "remove the moral and political pestilence which makes Utah the scandal of the American people."

In the Senate, a bill was introduced authorising a contract with the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, on terms similar to those agreed to by the British Government. The bill had been referred to the Post-office Committee, and the subject of the Atlantic telegraph was also referred to the same committee. A later despatch, *vid* Halifax, announces that the Transatlantic Telegraph Bill had been reported without amendment.

As had been expected, Mr. Sumner has been re-elected to the United States Senate on the part of one branch of the legislature of Massachusetts by a nearly unanimous vote. The other branch will be sure to concur.

The American continent and the Antilles had been visited by intense cold. Many of the harbours at the North are closed by ice, which also offers serious obstructions to navigation in some of the Southern ports. In all parts of Virginia the people are busy harvesting ice, with the expectation that no supply will be needed from the North next summer.

Advices from Kansas report that the Free State Legislature met at Topeka on the 6th instant, and adjourned until next day. Governor Robinson had resigned. Lieut.-Governor Roberts was in the territory, but failed to attend, and much dissatisfaction prevailed in consequence. A United States Deputy-Marshal had arrested seven members of the Free State Legislature on a writ issued by Judge Cato: over thirty names were attached to the writ. The prisoners were taken to Tecumseh for trial.

The *Cincinnati Enquirer* states that some of the slaves are taking advantage of the condition of the river, which is thoroughly frozen over, to make their escape into free territory. Three men and one woman crossed on the night of the 8th.

The British Government had lost a lawsuit in Halifax, a United States citizen recovering damages of 10,000*l.* against them. The cause of action is not revealed by the telegraph.

A convention of coloured people has been held in Sacramento, to endeavour to obtain a release from their disability to give evidence in Courts of Justice against white men. There was much talk about a new route between California and the Salt Lake, said to have been discovered by Enoch Reese, a member of the Utah Legislature. The route, it is asserted, is between 300 and 400 miles shorter than any yet travelled. It was expected that it would be the cause of a large increase of overland emigration.

The Mexican war steamer Iturbide is wrecked at Vera Cruz; ninety-eight men perished. The frigate Guadaloupe and several other vessels were lost in the hurricane.

The advices from Nicaragua are brief. Canas, the commander of the Costa Rican forces, was reported to be near or in Rivas with 600 men. Walker had 400 men at St. George, a mile or two from Rivas Canas had intimated his intention of immediately attacking the Filibusters if they did not take the initiative. The allied force numbered 2,000 men; reinforcements were expected. Large contributions of money, horses, mules, clothing, and provisions for the use of the allies had been made by the natives. Walker's forces did not, it is said, exceed 800 men.

CHINA AND INDIA.

The telegraphic advices from Hong Kong are to Dec. 16, and from Bombay to January 2. Yeh, backed up by the gentry and people, continued obdurate. The French Folly Fort had been taken and destroyed. The Chinese had set fire to the factories, and all the Hongs were destroyed. The Oriental, Agra, and Mercantile Banks were on fire, with no hopes of saving them. One fatal accident had occurred, O. T. Lane, nephew of Sir J. Bowring, being killed by the falling in of a wall. It was reported that Admiral Seymour would no longer spare the city of Canton, and that the discharge of rockets and shells had already commenced. Commodore Armstrong attacked and dismantled the barrier forts, in consequence of the Chinese wantonly firing on a man-of-war's boat under American colours. The prices of tea had advanced. The supplies were short everywhere.

Sir J. Bowring had applied to the Indian Government for troops.

Under date Ceylon, Dec. 23, we are told a portion of the troops are held in readiness for China.

The Melbourne advices are to the 30th October. The total amount of the gold produce for 1855 is estimated at 120 tons. The markets for imports had generally much improved.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Queen of Spain has been laid aside with a cutaneous disease, but is now better.

The Princess Lieven, so long known in the political world, died on Monday at her residence in Paris.

The evacuation of Greece by the French troops is said to be decided upon. It will probably take place in the spring.

The Americans have adopted a novel plan of defending New York: an iron-built floating steam battery, shot and shell proof, 420 feet long, and of 9,000 horse-power. The battery will mount six heavy guns. It is, however, only an experiment.

The Romans have been amused by the freak of a madman. He hid himself in the Vatican Palace, and one night aroused the sleeping inmates by crying aloud that the Pope was dead; that he himself was about to succeed his Holiness on the Pontifical throne; and that, as first fruit of his authority, he should order the Cardinal Secretary of State to be shot. At first there was a panic, but the character of the man was soon ascertained.

Mr. Layard, who is now on his way home from Constantinople, has obtained authority from the Porte to construct a system of railways connecting the Danube and Constantinople with a port on the southern coast of Turkey, towards the Archipelago. The subscription towards the scheme in Constantinople was no less 1,000,000*l.*

At Konigsberg, lately, there was to be a lecture delivered upon the steam engine, before an audience of admiring mechanics. As usual, there was a policeman present to ascertain that no political sentiments were expressed. The lecturer commenced an eloquent speech, to the effect that no conqueror of ancient or modern times, neither Alexander the Great, nor Julius Cæsar, nor Napoleon, was so great a conqueror as James Watt. So far had he got with his lecture, when the policeman came down upon him with one fell swoop, and put a stop to the evening's entertainment, declaring that his duty did not admit of his any farther permitting this political discourse!—*Times.*

Files of papers have been received from Cape Town to the 25th November inclusive. The *Graham's Town Journal* of the 18th of November says: "No post had arrived from the upper districts when our paper was put to press. All the rivers are in a swollen state. The news from King William's Town this morning is pacific. Umhala has given orders to his people to plough."

"ITALY AS IT IS AND AS IT IS TO BE."

The second and last lecture on this interesting subject was delivered on Thursday evening, at the Literary Institution, Edwards-street, Portman-square, by Professor Saffi. The learned gentleman devoted this lecture to the causes which had led to the unsuccessful issue of the Italian revolution in 1848 and 1849; the efforts to destroy the national aspiration by dynastic ambition; the conspiracy of despotism, and the influence of Popery, the faults of the free Government at this epoch, Austrian demonstration towards England and France; her triumph and jesuitical re-action in France and Germany; the import of this, and what it may mean to England; and the Italian cause as connected with the cause of universal politica and religious freedom in Europe. In speaking of the social system as it existed in Italy, he maintained that the position in which the agricultural community was placed with reference to the proprietory was favourable to the development of the resources of the country, and calculated to unite these two classes in efforts to promote the political advancement of the country. In looking to the commercial position of Italy, it was apparent that what was required was not revolution, but evolution, in order to enable the country to unfold its resources, by the construction of railways, the distribution of population, and other measures calculated to bring into practical operation the commercial and material ability of the country. Amongst the means that were in operation to retard the national,

political, and social development was the influence of the Popish priesthood, which was powerful both in town and country, and which was exercising its depressing agency on the moral energies of the country. He alluded to the fate of those Roman Catholic clergymen who had advocated the political freedom of the country, and which had already become a pathetic passage in history. Having paid an eloquent tribute to the ecclesiastical and political martyrs (which was warmly applauded), he next adverted to the progress of principles of free trade in Italy, and cited, in illustration, the fact of Mr. Cobden, the "apostle of free trade," having been received with the greatest enthusiasm when he visited different parts of the country, both by the commercial and the aristocratic classes, who adopted his doctrines, and only required to be placed in favourable circumstances to have rendered their country, in its commercial development, a further practical demonstration of the soundness of his principles of political economy. He next alluded to the indications that had been afforded by the revolutions of 1848 and 1849 to show how strong was the desire of political freedom in Italy, and that it only required some encouraging circumstances to unite the States in one great effort to secure their liberties, for which they so ardently thirsted. He supported this position by reference to the struggle that had been made during the revolution in question, and which he contended irrefutably established the fact, that the desire for freedom was an idea of the national mind. He concluded by a brief but not incomprehensive review of the State of Italy in its aspects of political, social, and commercial bearing, all of which he asserted were favourable towards freedom, and resumed his seat amidst loud applause.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.

On Wednesday last, Mr. Hullah's choral band, assisted by several eminent vocalists, performed Mendelssohn's "Elijah," in St. Martin's Hall. This magnificent production, brought forth (like Handel's sacred compositions) upon English soil, grows more and more familiar to the public, not only without loss to its attractiveness, but with a large gain. Its merits become, indeed, better appreciated with each successive performance, and already it stands in the very first class of musical originalities, whilst the strong dramatic points of the oratorio fit it peculiarly for popular effect. The rendering of the choruses by Mr. Hullah's classes was generally admirable, particularly "Baal, we cry to thee," "Thanks be to God, he laveth the thirsty land," "Woe to him, he shall perish," and "Then did Elijah the Prophet." The solo performances were very unequal. Miss Banks, as the principal soprano, did her best in a part altogether above her; and Mr. Thomas, as Elijah, excited hopes of a distinction for the future, which, though his voice is a fine one, he can scarcely be said to realise in the present. To speak of Miss Dolby is almost unnecessary. Her pathos in the air "Woe unto them," was only to be rivalled by her dignity in the passage where she personates the Queen, and her well-known song, "O rest in the Lord," vibrates in the heart long after her voice has ceased. It is sufficient to say that Mr. Sims Reeves' concluding song, "Then shall the righteous shine forth," was worthy of himself and his great reputation. There were not many *encores;* but one, given after the trio of the angels, had the unpleasant effect of separating that song from its naturally accompanying chorus, "He watching over Israel." Altogether the performance was good, and in some parts delightful.

On Saturday, the Earl of Harewood, while hunting with the Bramham hounds, was thrown from his mare, and fractured his skull. On Sunday morning a trepanning operation was ably performed by Mr. T. P. Teale, of Leeds, surgeon, aided by Mr. Hawkins, of London, and Mr. Smith, of Leeds. The noble earl passed a quiet night without any unfavourable symptoms having occurred, and up to Monday afternoon no change in his condition had taken place. He is in his 61st year, and succeeded his father in 1841. His successor will be his son, Viscount Lascelles, born in 1824, and married to the eldest daughter of the Marquis Clanricarde.

On Saturday evening, M. Kossuth received an enthusiastic welcome from the working men of Manchester, who assembled in large numbers in the Free-trade Hall, to hear a lecture on "The Political State of Continental Europe." The Chairman (the Rev. Dr. M'Kerrow) having delivered an able address, M. Kossuth gave expression to the political views with which his name is so intimately identified. He counselled his audience to seek those reforms which, even in constitutional Britain, were necessary; and to give the opposition to centralising measures, which were the first inroads on freedom. He concluded his brief lecture by bidding all hope on till the period of emancipation for the oppressed nationalities arrived. Humanity expects every Englishman to do his duty in the conflict. (Cheers.) The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Alderman Heywood:—

That this meeting cordially sympathises with M. Louis Kossuth in his continued protest against the usurpation by the Austrian government of the constitutional rights of Hungary; that it views with detestation the conduct of Austria towards Palermo, Hungary, and Italy, and indignantly repudiates any alliance on the part of this country in relation to the sovereign of a foreign state that appears to stand pre-eminent for acts fatal towards those who trust her, and for hostility to freedom wherever her influence is felt.

Spirit of the Press.

In noticing the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Friday to the deputation from the Income-Tax Association, the *Times* argues that it is not worth while "to fight against our destiny."

With respect to the tax itself, we cannot help ourselves—we are certainly saddled with it for the next three years. The relief from the War Income-tax, then, for one year sooner would only be a relief from the augmentation of the tax, not from the tax; it would only affect the production of the tax—it would not touch the character of the tax itself. The machinery of the Income-tax would go on all the same whether it raised 7d. or 16d. in the pound; it would be just as inquisitorial, just as partial, just as trying to men's consciences, just as provocative of evasion. It is not the amount, but the nature of the tax, which condemns it.

Government, quoth the leading journal, should really understand now that we want to get rid of this tax, and that we expect to do so as soon as the general act expires.

The *Economist*, on the other hand, takes up the defence of the income-tax as a judicious source of public revenue. Are we not "kicking down the ladder by which the height has been scaled"—that is by which the free trade experiment has been allowed full play? The nation was grateful to Sir R. Peel for the inauguration of a policy which had brought abundance and prosperity to every portion of the community. If the national gratitude so abounded *then*, how much more should it *now*, when after six more years of experience the blessings of his measures have become so much more developed and apparent. In reply to the plea that the income-tax leads to "fraud and deception," the *Economist* asks if that is not incidental to every tax, especially those raised from Customs and Excise?—

Even now, after the temptation has been so much reduced, it costs us the better part of a million a year to keep up a coast-guard, not to collect revenue, but to prevent smuggling. Talk of immorality. Will those who use this argument read the evidence taken before committees of the House of Commons upon the tobacco and spirit duties—upon the exclusion of French silks and high duties on tea? Will they consider what smuggling is upon a large scale, and even more upon a small scale? Will they consider the temptation offered by high excise duties?

Our contemporary then examines the nature and proceeds of the income-tax, with a view to show that it is not *peculiarly* obnoxious to this charge:—

The tax is divided into five schedules. Taking the entire amount at 16,000,000*l.* in the present year, it is apportioned among the different schedules nearly in about the following manner.—

Schedule A, Real Property.....	£8,000,000
B, Farmers	1,000,000
C, Public Funds	2,000,000
D, Trades and Professions	4,000,000
E, Salaries	1,000,000
Total.....	16,000,000

Now let us examine these items in detail, and see how far the liability to fraud or evasion applies to them. In the first place we have schedule A, the landlords' tax upon the rent of real property. This is paid by the tenants upon the actual rent, and the receipt of the tax is accepted by the landlord as money in part payment of the rent. There is therefore no conceivable motive for evasion or fraud upon this portion of the tax, nor is there any means of avoiding it. Here, then, we begin with one half of the tax peculiarly exempt from this taint. Next we have schedule B, which comprises the profits of farmers: and these are computed, not upon any return, but according to a certain fixed portion of the rent. Here, again, there is no room for concealment or fraud. This disposes of another million without taint. Then we come to schedule C, which embraces the dividends on the public funds. Here, again, the tax is collected by the Bank, and there can be neither fraud nor evasion. Thus another two millions are free from the objection. Then take schedule E, which embraces public salaries. Here, again, the tax is stopped at the fountain, and is free from any possible evasion. The Paymaster retains it, and hands it over to the Inland Revenue. This disposes of another million: so that we have already accounted for twelve millions out of the sixteen, paid in a manner which relieves it more from the possibility of evasion or fraud than any other tax whatever. We have yet to deal with schedule D. Of the 4,000,000*l.* which it may contribute, it will not be too much to say that 1,000,000*l.* is paid by railways and other joint stock companies, which account direct to the Government, and deduct the tax from the dividend. So that at least we have only *three millions* left, or about twenty per cent. of the whole, which can be said in any way to be exposed to frauds or evasions in the manner complained of. Well, we will consider the arrangement so far as this portion of the tax is concerned. It is no doubt subject to evasion and fraud, but certainly not more so than the bulk of all other taxes. But when will any other tax be found of which it can be said that nearly *eighty per cent.* of the whole is collected under circumstances absolutely equal and fair to all the contributors and not liable either to fraud or evasion?

Our present system of diplomacy finds a keen and witty opponent in the *Examiner*, which contends that if after reasonable delay "the diplomatic disservice" were swept away, England would doubtless begin to feel the benefit of a good understanding and amity with foreign nations. While the diplomatic disservice exists it will always be cultivating succession crops of strife. No sooner do we get rid of one ugly question than another rises, and another and another without end. We are always protecting somebody, and well might Sydney Smith say he was weary of protecting—worn down by defending all the world.

The Persian quarrel is a fine example of the working of the diplomatic disservice. The *Edinburgh Review* has put forth a defence of it which is in effect the most substantial condemnation. To make all the mischief was more than one man's work. It required not less than three artificers to perfect the present embroilment. Colonel Shiel began the work with the convention (we stop not to question the big word for so slight an engagement) binding Persia not to send troops to Herat, except when that bone of contention should be attacked by foreign troops, in which case the Persians were to retire upon the retreat of the other enemy, *pari passu*. The treaty was a sort of paraphrase of the old song, "Do as the company do." Persia was to do as the enemy did. She was to come and go with any other invader. Herat was by Colonel Shiel made to serve like the boots of Bombastes Furioso, which that hero hangs up with the notice—

"Who ever does these boots displace
Must meet Bombastes face to face."

"If you touch Herat," said Colonel Shiel, "nay, if you do but look at her in a hostile way, woe betide, for you will have to do with avenging England." But the convention of Herat, preposterous as it was, was not enough to insure quarrel and mischief. Mr. Thompson, Colonel Shiel's successor, had a finger in the pie. A Persian prince had possession of the house of a naturalised British subject, one Abdool Kurreem, and had an insuperable aversion to the ceremony of paying rent. He would neither pay nor go. Here was a fine case for protection. Was it to be borne that Abdool Kureem, a British subject, should be cheated of his rent? Forbid it, the honour of England. The great house question arose. Mr. Thomson took the law into his own hands, says the *Edinburgh Review*, and directed a forcible ejectment. What Mr. Thomson took into his own hands does not seem to us to be in the least like law, but a violence against all law. Suppose a French subject in London to be the owner of a house occupied by a prince who has a decided objection to paying rent, and we have had Royal dukes in our time influenced strongly by that antipathy, in commemoration of which a column has been raised as high as the debts left behind one of them. Well, what would be thought of the French Ambassador if he were to send a pack of servants to turn his Royal Highness out of his house by force of arms? "Oh," we shall be told, "the rules of civilised nations do not apply to a state of things like that of Persia." But when the Persian Minister threatens to lay hold of Mr. Hashem, appointed to a British mission at Shiraz, the law of nations is invoked against the proposed violence. And so it is that we play fast and loose with the laws of nations, holding them binding when they are on our side, and null when against us. A European power in the case of Mr. Hashem would have refused to grant him an *exequatur*, and the appointment would thus have been void. The sequel of the great house question was, that the heroes of the British Embassy were ignominiously expelled and routed by the superannuated women of some harems let loose against them. So neither the rent was got in by the English Minister's levy, nor the house restored to the worthy Abdool Kurreem. The only consequence was ill blood on both sides, the bringing about of which is the business of the diplomatic disservice.

The complication has now made fine progress. Colonel Shiel has created the Herat question, Mr. Thomson has followed with the great house-rent question, and third comes Mr. Murray, with the Hashem question. At Herat Great Britain plays the part of a protector; in the great house-rent question she figures as a bailiff taking possession; in the Hashem affair her part is more equivocal, and not easy to describe. There was a lady in the case, and, in default of getting hold of Mr. Hashem, the Shah laid hold of Mrs. Hashem, and justified the act by imputing something very pawpaw to Mr. Murray. The crimson blushes of the British flag, whose modesty was thus outraged, were too painful to be borne; down it went in a fit of displeasure, and Mr. Murray, in the touching language of the *Edinburgh Review*, "set his face towards Turkey." Of the merits of this great question, so far as Mrs. Hashem is concerned, we know nothing, but as regards her worthy mate we have our mistrust, for it may almost uniformly be observed that the diplomatic disservice has a decided predilection for foreign scamps, who come to it for patronage and protection when they have outraged the laws of their own country, and been cast off by those who have the best means of judging of their characters and conduct.

Now, let it be considered with sorrow how much more satisfactory our relations or no-relations with Persia would be if there had been no members of the diplomatic disservice to meddle and make—no Shiel to guard Herat to such purpose as to bring about its present capture; no Thomson to recover a debt for house-rent, or in default to take possession like a broker's man; no Murray to vindicate the great cause of Mr. and Mrs. Hashem. How curiously each of these gentlemen has done his worst! If Colonel Shiel had made a convention with the Shah, stringently stipulating for his making the conquest of Herat forthwith at his own charge, not a finger would that potentate have moved against the filthiest of Eastern cities. A thousand reasons, a thousand pleas of impossibility, would have been found for not performing the engagement. Herat would have been firmly secured against Persian hostilities by Persian bad faith. It would have been enough that the thing was conditioned for in a treaty to insure its never being executed. By the contrary course, by throwing paper engagements around Herat, Colonel Shiel made the place appear of the most transcendant importance to the Persians, and an object of desire to be attained even at the unwonted price of some energy and exertion.

Mr. Thomson has been a square peg in a round hole. There was a place for a man of his special aptitude, but it was not at Teheran. There is in London a society for the recovery of debts, to whom the service of Mr. Thomson would have been invaluable in summary process of entry and ouster, always barring the intervention of old women to beat off his bailiffs.

Mr. Murray's quarrel we like best as a matter of taste. If we are to have a war let it be for a Helen rather than for a dirty city or a paltry ejectment. The Hashem war will be a fine title for history, and subject for an epic, Murray's wrath standing in place of that of Achilles in the "Iliad."

Increased attention is being paid by the press to the

great source of our difficulties with the Chinese—the opium traffic. We lately threw out the suspicion that our present difference with that country would probably be found to be directly or indirectly connected with that vile trade. The *Freeman's Journal* furnishes some valuable information confirming our impression:

It is well known that at Hong-Kong there were opium depôts, and that vessels like the Arrow paid small sums for permission to carry the British flag, and, under its protection, succeeded in running enormous quantities. The object of the East India Company ever since the last treaty was the legalisation of the traffic, and this nefarious object has, within the last few years, acquired still greater force from the large balances in silver which England has had to pay, to the great disorder of her monetary affairs. The exports from China to Great Britain last year amounted to 8,255,000*l.*, and the legal imports in part payment to 1,373,000*l.*, leaving a balance in favour of China of nearly seven millions sterling. If the trade had been legalised, the largest portion of this heavy balance—if not the whole—would be discharged by the importation of opium. The annual influx of seven millions sterling of opium and the annual efflux of silver affect China and the legal trade in three ways—in the destructive effect on the Chinese—the monetary derangement of the country—and the injurious influence on the foreign legal trade. The consumption of this horrid drug is just so much capital destroyed, to say nothing of the thousands of families annually involved in ruin, and the diffusion of poverty and crime over the land. The derangement and restriction of the circulation, in consequence, are obvious. The trade with China has always been considered by the Chinese as a barter trade. They have no paper currency, and are, therefore, dependent on a clumsy metallic substitute, consisting of Spanish dollars and ingots of silver. Now, if England were suddenly reduced to a state of barter, and if this continued for a series of years by the withdrawal of paper credit, while the circulation consisted of a very small quantity of metallic currency, she would be visited with all the evils which have now fallen on China. The whole machinery of commerce is obstructed and contracted within the narrowest limits. The annual drain of the circulation, through the consumption of a poison which is on the increase, must inevitably involve the country in ruin. The influence on the foreign legal trade is equally plain. As China becomes less able to bear the drain of silver, she gradually pays for opium with her produce, and thus the poison supplants the foreign legal commerce. If she retained the silver to maintain a healthy home circulation, she could consume larger quantities of British manufactures and pay better prices for them. It has been argued that the trade is necessary to keep up the commerce of England from the facility with which it commands silver—but the argument, as we have endeavoured to show, is fallacious. The Exchanges of the East are no doubt facilitated by this traffic, since the larger the commerce in any part of the world, the greater will be the facilities for exchange. English capitalists annually remit large sums to India to pass into China, either in opium or in bills on opium, and to be returned to England from China in bills or produce. The result is, that the question of exchange has become bound up with that of opium smuggling, and affects the general Eastern trade of England and America.

The *Morning Post* defends the traffic on the plea that to interfere is at variance with free trade principles, with sound policy, and with the natural operations of commerce. To this the *Sheffield Independent* replies that the argument would be just as applicable to the slave trade as to that in opium, and might as well be used against British interference with that accursed traffic. Proving too much, it proves nothing at all. The facts are patent and undeniable. Opium is manufactured by a British parliament-empowered company, and by them poured into China, with results so frightful as to startle and perplex even a pagan government. Our Sheffield contemporary puts a parallel case:—"The retail of arsenic has been placed under legal restriction in this country, just as the sale of opium has been in China. What should we say were the Americans to demand facilities for its importation into England, and its introduction into every house in defiance of the law?"

The origin of the war with China is still a fruitful topic of discussion, and an endeavour is being made to clear our authorities at Canton from the imputation of having commenced hostilities without adequate cause. "A Merchant" in the *Times* defends the course taken by Sir John Bowring. Pointing out that the Arrow had a colonial register, he remarks, that if it should prove she left Hong Kong for Canton *before* her licences expired, "the British protection under which she sailed would remain by her until her return, even in a legal point of view; morally, there can be no question that it would." Passing by this, however, he contends that Yeh believed that the Arrow had a British register; since he remarks, in his first letter, that her builder obtained a British register for her on the day she was completed. In another letter, Yeh says the officers "were not aware she was a foreign lorcha."

Yeh denies, indeed, that the British flag was *flying* at the time; but our Consul satisfied himself from the master (Mr. Kennedy) that it was; and Yeh moreover acknowledges that it was on board the vessel—another proof that he looked on the vessel as having some British rights or privileges. That the master was an Englishman nobody will deny. We have, then, a vessel with a British name, with a British master, with the British flag flying, and (as far as Yeh was concerned and by his own confession) a British register. . . . Can anything be clearer, then, than that, even if owing to the technical difficulty caused by the licence having expired, the strict letter of the treaty was not violated by Yeh, he intended to violate it, and that the course he pursued was a gross and premeditated insult to the British flag?"

In a subsequent communication he gives the substance of the Hong Kong ordinance, regulating the registration of vessels, which provides that the name of ships shall be painted in prominent Roman and Chinese characters on the stern—that the master shall be British—and that the annual license is renewable on its expiration by simple endorsement, accompanied by the payment of a fee of ten dollars. To obtain this endorsement the register must be deposited in the office at Hong Kong for one week before the expiration of the year; or, if the vessel be at sea at the time, then on her return. "The Merchant" argues that if, as is probable, the Arrow had not been at Hong Kong since her licence expired, it is perfectly clear that the lapse of the few days about which so much has been said and written did not work a forfeiture of the British rights of the vessel; but that at the moment of the outrage she remained a British ship in every sense of the word. The *Examiner* is satisfied with this reasoning—not so the *Morning Star* and *Daily News*. The latter says:—

The original cause of quarrel is not to be insisted upon; a new one has been found. The lorcha grievance will not hold water. The practice of investing Chinese vessels with a temporary alien character is too palpably liable to abuse. Would the English Government tolerate the assumption by the French authorities of a right to give English luggers annual licences, entitling them to the privileges of French vessels whenever the owners gave the "nominal" command of the vessel to some runagate Englishman who chanced to be "a respectable enough man of his class?" Yet this is exactly what the local Government of Hong Kong has been taking upon it to do. It appears that the licence of the lorcha Arrow had expired, and had not been renewed; it is denied by the Chinese, and not proved by the English, that the British flag was flying at the time of seizure; it is asserted by the Chinese, and not denied by the English, that two of the crew were pirates. All these things make the particular case much worse; but even though these aggravations had been wanting, the practice of endeavouring to withdraw Chinese subjects for a time from the jurisdiction of their native courts, by granting them annual licences—*quasi* and temporary acts of naturalisation—would be utterly indefensible. Accordingly the English Plenipotentiary, Admiral, and Consul agree that it will be best to say no more about the lorcha.

No one will deny to the *Scottish Press* its claim to be as good a Protestant as the *Times*. Nevertheless our Edinburgh contemporary ventures to differ from the Thunderer in its view of the decision in the recent important case of Alicia Race, and thus pithily states its reasons for doing so:—

If Serjeant Race chose to become "unequally yoked" to a Popish wife, that was Serjeant Race's look-out. He entered—or he ought to have entered—on the step with his eyes open to all its consequences. He is dead, and to the mother of right belongs the custody and disposal of her own child—that child being still within the age of pupilage. This right cannot be made contingent upon other considerations. Besides, let us see how we should like the argument if turned upon ourselves. Suppose Serjeant Race had been a Catholic and the mother a Protestant, and the girl had been sent to a nunnery, from which her Protestant mother wished to withdraw her. What a deluge of indignation would have descended upon mother-abbesses and their coadjutors had any attempt been made to resist the natural claim of the child's surviving parent; and justly so. Well, the case being altered, does it alter the case? Some people say yes,—we say no. We will give the Roman Catholics no more than justice, but let them have justice.

The *Leader* throws a new light upon the trial of Verger, the assasin of the late Archbishop of Paris:—

The opinion is that Verger is a fanatic stung by disappointment to expose to the world the frightful immoralities of the Church in France. His intellect gave way, in a certain sense, under the weight of this conviction. He tried numerous methods of making himself heard, and, after fifteen years of persecution, he selected the detestable device of a public murder. He is described to us "an honest fanatic, frenzied in one particular." He sacrificed everything to gain the single object of his life, which was to unmask the existence of a hideous amount of intrigue, falsehood, hypocrisy, and unnatural depravity among the French priesthood. They tried to gag him, but his immense energy defeated them. When he was put upon his trial it had been determined, not only to execute him, but to blacken his character and stifle his voice. The scheme was not altogether successful. The few words he roared out, which the drum ecclesiastic could not drown, were well understood, and are now commented upon in all quarters of Paris.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Jan. 28.

SETTLEMENT OF THE PERSIAN QUESTION.

The *Morning Post* of yesterday gave prominence to the following: "We believe we may state that official information has reached our Government of the probability of the Court of Teheran agreeing to our demands. The Turkish Minister at that capital has sent a despatch to his Government, informing them that, having heard of the fall of Bushire, the Persian Government 'decided' to make peace upon the English terms. On its reaching Constantinople, this intelligence was immediately forwarded, by telegraph, by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and its authenticity may be relied on. We may therefore hope for a speedy settlement of the Persian difficulty."

The *Daily News* of this morning says: "We learn, from good authority, that a telegraphic message from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was received at the Board of Control on Saturday, to the effect that the Shah has accepted the terms of peace offered by England, not on account of the fall of Bushire, but on general grounds."

It is stated that the Pope has at last consented to crown the Emperor of the French at Rheims in the month of May, and has given the sanction of the Church to the new order of things in France.

A contract of marriage is announced between the Comte de Paris and the daughter of the Duchess Regent of Parma, who is the only sister of the Duc de Bordeaux. By this alliance the fusion will, it is hoped, be complete, and the conflicting pretensions of the Houses of Bourbon and Orleans be reconciled. At present, however, the youthful princess and future bride is only in her *eighth* year.

The *Revue de Paris* has been suspended for one month, on account of an article which appeared in it against the King of Prussia.

The writer of a Paris letter, dated Monday, says he is assured that the Procureur who was appointed to draw up the report on Verger's appeal to the Court of Cassation, concludes for the rejection of the appeal. The affair will be brought forward on Thursday, and Verger's counsel will be heard in support of the appeal.

Yesterday the Chancellor of the Exchequer was waited upon by a second deputation of those who seek to reduce the income-tax; and on this occasion many arguments were presented to induce him to remove the tax altogether upon incomes of 150*l.* and under. The Chancellor asked a question, and appeared to be about to venture upon an explanation, when the deputation rose and retired.

Mr. W. Conyngham, who contested Westminster in 1852 against General Evans and Sir John Shelley, is likely to take the field at Greenwich in opposition to General Codrington.

Baron Alderson expired yesterday afternoon, at his residence, Park-crescent, at a quarter to five o'clock. Sir Edward Alderson, born at Great Yarmouth in the year 1787, was the eldest son of Robert Alderson, Esq., Recorder of Norwich, by the daughter of Samuel Hurry, Esq. Though the learned judge had been suffering for some two months past, it is scarcely a fortnight since his friends became seriously alarmed at his condition. But since Saturday last, his recovery has been considered hopeless. In the death of this eminent person the public have to deplore the loss of a distinguished lawyer and an excellent man.

The deaths registered in London, which in the two previous weeks had been 1,135 and 1,171, rose in the week that ended last Saturday to 1,216. Although the rate of mortality has been rising lately, it is still below the average.

The Mercantile Law Conference, a highly important undertaking, will be opened this morning at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, and a preliminary meeting was held last night to arrange the order of the proceedings. The conference is under the presidency of Lord Brougham, with an influential body of vice-presidents.

Colonel Tulloch, late commissioner in the Crimea, has just brought out a book entitled "The Crimean Commission and the Chelsea Board; being a Review of the Proceedings and Report of the Board."

The unemployed operatives of London visibly increase, and are to be seen in all parts of the metropolis. Large bodies of them have presented themselves before the Poor Law Guardians to beg for bread. Statements were made to Mr. Corrie at Clerkenwell, on Monday, of a heartrending character, and the Magistrate so interposed on behalf of the applicants that the more necessitous cases will be attended to by the workhouse officials. Yesterday there was a demonstration of some 200 men at Lambeth Police-court, but Mr. Elliot, the magistrate, stated his belief that the object of the parties was more to make a display than actual want, or a desire to seek for parochial assistance.

Farringdon Hall, Snow-hill, last night received a strange company, consisting of the holders of tickets-of-leave, who, at the instance of some individuals who take an interest in their fate, were induced to present themselves before the public to apprise them of the difficulties they have to encounter. There were upwards of 100 in attendance. The Earl of Carnarvon (who took the chair), Mr. H. Mayhew, Mr. Beach, and Rev. Mr. Portall attended, and it may be said that the proceedings were conducted under their superintendence. Several interesting statements were made by the released convicts, to which we cannot refer in detail. But the general feeling was a desire to emigrate. The chairman, before closing the meeting, asked whether they would prefer a ticket-of-leave in England or in the colonies. Several persons cried out "in the colonies," and a large majority, if not the entire meeting, subsequently decided, by a show of hands, in favour of a colonial life.

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

The show of English wheat in to-day's market was only limited. The attendance of buyers was by no means numerous, yet factors were rather firm in their demands. However, very little business resulted, at Monday's decline in price. Only 1,870 quarters of foreign wheat have come fresh to hand this week. The trade ruled inactive, but we have no change to notice in value. Floating cargoes of grain commanded very little attention. There was only a slow sale for barley, the supply of which was good, at previous rates. We had a dull sale for malt, yet former terms were with difficulty supported. In the value of oats, beans, peas, and flour, no change took place.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Having ourselves commented on the Special Meeting of the Congregational Union, our correspondents who have written to us on that topic, will probably see our reason for not further crowding our space with their letters.

"An Inquirer" adopts a somewhat fantastic interpretation of passing events. We cannot find room for his letter.

"J. B."—The office of the Ballot Society is 5, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street.

The report of the Royal Jennerian Institution reached us too late to be used this week.

Mr. J. Box desires us to mention that, in the recent report of the meeting of Dissenting Deputies the insertion of the word "unnecessary" in the resolution moved by him, and passed, relative to oaths, was a mistake. We need hardly say that this zealous friend of Nonconformity holds *all* oaths to be unnecessary and unlawful. Our report was copied from the *Daily News*.

The Postmaster-General has given notice of an improvement he contemplates carrying into effect with the New Year for the acceleration of the metropolitan delivery of letters, by its division into districts to be denoted by initials affixed to the address. Thus, the *Nonconformist* office, being in the Eastern Central, the address should be

Nonconformist Office,
69, Fleet-street,
London.
E. C.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1857.

SUMMARY.

"THE great Asian mystery" is at length solved. We are to have peace with Persia without plunging into an extended and interminable Oriental war. As far back as Saturday last the Ministerial *Globe* announced in oracular terms that important news, giving hopes of peace, had been received from Constantinople. The statement was repeated on Monday with greater emphasis, and has now received wider confirmation. The *Daily News* of this morning learns, on good authority, that a telegraphic message from our Ambassador in that city was received at the Board of Control on Saturday, to the effect that the Shah has accepted the terms of peace offered by England, not on account of the fall of Bushire, but on general grounds. Some time since, it will be recollected, Mr. Langston told his constituents at Oxford that he had good reason to believe that the difference with Persia would be arranged by the time Parliament assembled. That prediction has been fulfilled with singular accuracy. It would almost seem that the Shah rather desired a pretence for yielding, and thus avoiding a disastrous war, and seized the occasion of the capture of Bushire to accept an arrangement he had already resolved upon. The welcome intelligence is corroborated by the pointed reference made to the subject by the Emperor Napoleon, in his reply to the address of the Persian Envoy, on presenting his credentials on Friday last. "I entertain sincere wishes," said Louis Napoleon, "that your mission to this portion of the globe may hasten the return of a lasting peace." The information has arrived opportunely for a paragraph in the Royal speech, next Tuesday.

Happily, this threatened war has been little more than a demonstration on our part. The same telegraphic wire that flashed the news of peace told of the capture of the Island of Karrack in the Persian Gulf by the British expedition, and of the surrender of Bushire on the 9th December, after a few hours' bombardment, without a single casualty on our part. But the quarrel has not been altogether bloodless even on the side of the British. In the capture of the fort of Bushire on the 8th, Brigadier Stopford and three other officers were killed, one officer was wounded, and the force lost besides about twenty rank and file. Scarcely less important than the news of peace is the information that the British force which was near Affghanistan had returned without crossing the frontier.

But for our unfortunate difference with China, there would be reason for congratulation on the pacific aspect of Oriental affairs. At Canton, however, the quarrel between the British and Chinese authorities has become envenomed, and threatens dire consequences to that densely-populated city. According to the latest telegraphic news, the foreign quarters had been set fire to by the enraged Yeh, several banks burned to the ground, and all the Hongs (rows of warehouses) destroyed, though it is believed that the greater part of their contents had been previously removed. It is clear, from this catastrophe, that the British authorities are embarrassed for want of an adequate land force to repel these attacks, and that the position of the foreign residents, but for the feebleness and incapacity of the Chinese mandarins, would be highly dangerous. Admiral Seymour had, however, threatened the city itself with bombardment, and already commenced the deadly shower of rockets and shells, while Sir J. Bowring had applied in haste for troops from India. Other accounts represent the whole empire as still a prey to anarchy; Yeh, the viceroy of the Two Quangs, as conspicuous among the officials of the Imperial Government for his cruelty and mendacity; and the insurgents as gaining ground generally. The followers of Tae-Ping have fully established their authority at Nankin, and have fortified the Yang-Tse-Kiang, so that the mouth of the river can no longer be entered by the Chinese fleet. The discussion as to the origin of our difference with the Canton authorities is noticed elsewhere. According to the statement of "a merchant," the notorious Yeh has beheaded not less than 70,000 during his brief rule as governor of the province!

On the Continent amnesties are once more coming into fashion. King Bomba *promises* an act of clemency, when a certain happy event is consummated. But the Emperor of Austria has been beforehand with his brother sovereign. Out of 115 political prisoners now under sentence for high treason and insurrection in Lombardy, seventy have been pardoned. According to the *Times* the remainder "are persons of obscure station and criminal lives, who, though condemned for the political offence of insurrection, were known to have taken part in the tumult for the purposes of plunder." All political prosecutions are stayed in Lombardy, and the secret tribunal of Mantua is dissolved. Coming close upon the removal of the sequestration from the property of Lombard exiles, the amnesty seems like a real act of conciliation—large, complete, and graceful. "Seems," we say—for we need more certain evidence than has yet come to hand, of the good intentions of a Court that has just handed over all its subjects to priestly power, and that has hitherto been consistent only in refusing them the smallest concession of political freedom. It may seem very illiberal, but we must avow that we have no faith in the magnanimity nor generosity of the House of Hapsburg. However—the telegraph reports that Milan is in raptures at the Imperial boon, that its sad desolation has been lighted up by an illumination, and that Francis Joseph has received an ovation at the Scala! We believe it—till the details are received.

A change of Italian policy on the part of Austria would be specially sagacious at the present juncture, if only to counteract the moral influence of Piedmont in the Peninsula. The Turin Parliament is now in session, and it is impossible to read the addresses of the foremost statesmen of Piedmont without the conviction, that Italy can never die, so long as she possesses such exponents of national feelings as Cavour, Farini, and Mamiami. The mission of his own little State was thus eloquently alluded to, in the debate of the 15th, by the last-named orator—the Macaulay of the Italian Senate House:—

> We were [he said, in allusion to the hopes held out by the late war] like the travellers who halt upon a mountain top, and unexpectedly behold, at the farther end of the vast plain, the great metropolitan city to which they are journeying, and which by a natural, an inevitable illusion, appears to be distant from them but a short and easy way. (Cheers.) We still find ourselves on the road; but it now seems to us as though the paths tended strangely to lengthen themselves, and the vexations, the hindrances, the labours increase beyond our expectation. But, gentlemen, if the emancipation of a people were the task of a brief time and a moderate amount of toil, it would not be the grandest and the holiest of all human undertakings. Every one of us knows himself to be strong and noble for some days of his life; every one of us feels himself to be capable, at certain moments, of perfect goodness, and of the purest self-denial; but what is really difficult, what even in the life of nations is rare, is a firm, serene, unwavering perseverance. And precisely upon this account, gentlemen, do I recognise in the subalpine leadership of Italy a work which is all intended and designed by the saving providence of the nations.

The Property and Income-tax Association have endeavoured to draw from the Chancellor of the Exchequer a premature disclosure of the character of his forthcoming Budget. Of course Sir George Lewis is too astute a financier to be so entrapped. Still his statement on Friday was interesting and important. He told the deputation, headed by Major Reed, M.P., that the "ways and means" for the year must depend entirely upon the estimated expenditure, which was not yet calculated. Government has no intention to take advantage of the wording of the Act of Parliament "in a pettifogging spirit." Nevertheless, there seems little reason to believe that "the war ninepence" will be spared this year, though it is evident Ministers will give the House of Commons the option of retaining or rejecting that impost. Our sanguine contemporary, the *Press*, reckons upon a surplus revenue of some 14,000,000*l.* during the coming financial year, which would enable us to dispense with the increased duties on tea, sugar, and coffee, and 11d. in the pound of this income-tax! But the matter-of-fact Chancellor of the Exchequer is careful not to encourage any such expectation. He points out that the falling in of the extra malt tax will entail a loss of nearly one million, that the taking off the extra taxes on tea, &c., will diminish the revenue still more, and that there is the interest on loans and Exchequer-bills to be met. He has not seen the naval and military estimates, upon the amount of which will, he says, mainly depend the margin available for the remission of taxation. But we can form an approximate guess on this head without the aid of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. These estimates, when presented last March, amounted, in round numbers, to 47,500,000*l.* If we deduct 20,000,000*l.*, according to the authority of Lord Panmure, our military and naval expenditure will still extend to 27,500,000*l.*, or 12,000,000*l.* beyond the average peace expenditure of the last ten years! Such being the case, we would recommend the taxpayers of the United Kingdom to give up the delusion that they are likely to get rid of the "war ninepence" this year. Whatever surplus there might have been is swallowed up in our warlike armaments. It is already as good as spent. It is too late to complain, but not too late to exercise vigilance, insist on economy, and demand a revision of taxation.

Space warns us to restrict our comments. Domestic news is of a sombre and painful kind. Dr. Medhurst, the distinguished missionary to China, has been removed from our midst under peculiar circumstances—having just arrived home from the scene of his labours in the Celestial Empire. Such a loss is all the more heavy at the present crisis of political affairs in China. Baron Alderson, one of our most distinguished judges, has also been stricken down by disease, but not without having achieved a high reputation on the bench.—No one can walk the streets of London without a consciousness of the destitution that abounds. The unemployed operatives are everywhere visible—in the thoroughfare, at the workhouse, and at the police-court. Last night, too, the ticket-of-leave men of London, to the number of 100, had *their* demonstration, under the presidency of a peer of the realm—the young Earl of Carnarvon. "Emigration" is the watchword of these unfortunates, and their reasonable and urgent desire will, we hope, receive every attention. But the unconvicted, though destitute, operative, may put in the plea, "I have the *first* claim;" and the appeal cannot be gainsayed.

We learn from Paris that Verger is not, and may not be, executed, and that the Emperor is at length to be crowned at Rheims by the Pope himself.—In Brussels, Prince de Ligne has denounced Sir R. Peel, for his disreputable speech at Birmingham as "a sot," "a blackguard," and "an underbred good-for-nothing."—The Porte is seriously turning its attention to railway communication, under the guidance of Mr. Layard; and America is visited by a polar winter, which, among other benefits, enables fugitive slaves to cross the Mississippi in safety.

MR. ROEBUCK AT LIVERPOOL.

ARTHUR ROEBUCK, fie upon you! How comes it that you can never speak without telling a great deal more truth than suits the purposes of either of the factions into which the ruling class in this country are nominally divided? Whig may abuse Tory, and Tory Whig, up to any degree on the scale of rhetorical exaggeration, without violation of the conventional proprieties of political life. Why cannot you content yourself with this amount of licence? Why must you insist on probing the sores of both parties? Cynic that you are, you *will* see what is wrong on the side nearest to you, as well as on the side farthest from you; and what you see you are imprudent enough to expose. 'Tis very well to hold up the mirror of vice when the back of it is towards your friends—but to turn it round impartially to all, and show each party just what they are—oh fie! it is extravagant, unpractical, unpatriotic, suicidal!

Such is the esoteric sense of the two articles in

the *Times* on Mr. Roebuck's telling speech at Liverpool, before the Financial Reform Association. The truthfulness of the honourable gentleman's picture of what may be called legislatorial corruption and ministerial "soft sawder," the *Times* does not challenge. But that pre-Raphaelite minuteness and accuracy which photographs men and manners in the House of Commons—that fidelity which presents to constituencies a life-like and unflattered portrait of their representatives—that familiar honesty which introduces visitors to the interior of public life, and allows them to see for themselves what goes on "under the rose"—is too disagreeable for the delicate sensibility of the *Times*. What if it be real? asks our leading journal—why should we be made to look at it? It isn't pleasant. It isn't æsthetic. It makes us feel uncomfortable. It is like taking a gentleman after dinner, before he has finished his wine, and just at a moment when his friends are melting into geniality, to some squalid lodging-house in some back court unknown to the genteel, and torturing his nerves with the sight of the loathsome accumulation of human misery which lies festering there in neglect and obscurity. Faugh! 'Tis not the thing, 'pon honour!

The tone of the articles in the *Times* convinces us that Mr. Roebuck's speech has told home. If he had not touched a very tender place, there would have been less wincing. The Thunderer himself, as his *soubriquet* implies, is not always gentle, nor does he always handle abuses with compassionate politeness. "The more's the pity" that he does not use his great power and skill with an impartial and consistent view to the good of the people. To let in a blaze of light here and there upon old closets and dusty attics, and to call lustily for a new housemaid, a new broom, and plenty of whitewash and soap, is a common practice with the *Times*—a practice which, as matters stand, occasionally does good service. But let no man, lanthorn in hand, propose to go down stairs and examine the foundation of the edifice! Let no man set himself to shovel aside the rubbish that he may expose to view the rotten bases which render the whole fabric unsafe, and which would risk its very existence in the next elemental convulsion! He who dares to do that must look for the opposition of the *Times*. It will not always take the same shape; but it is opposition nevertheless. Sometimes it will show itself in studied silence—sometimes in a contemptuous laugh—sometimes in an affectation of indignant passion—and sometimes, as in Mr. Roebuck's case, in a sort of despondent shrug at an unattainable standard of virtue. And herein it is to be confessed, the journal does but reflect the temper and wishes of the class with whom it passes for an authority. Their passion—if, indeed, they can be truly said to have any passion in public affairs—or their *penchant* is, to cover over things so as to give them a *decent* appearance. To make them square with *right* and *truth* would be too expensive. They veneer their deal. They delight in French polish. Stains which they can hide, are not stains to their cognisance. Lath, plaster, and canvas, concealed behind an elegant paper, are the *ne plus ultra* of desirable improvement, in their estimation. And hence, when an outspoken man tells them that those yawning fissures in the walls, and ugly cracks across the ceilings, those bulging windows, and doors that will not hang straight, will remain much as they are in spite of the most painstaking and expensive patching—they complain of him that he is always prophesying evil things, that to find fault is his vocation—and that the extravagance of his representations, however demonstrably true, gives him a most unsocial and misanthropic appearance.

The Chairman of the Administrative Reform Association, however, would do wrong to imagine that he stands alone as a tabooed politician. His abilities and his public service may render the isolation of his position more conspicuous than in the case of others, but not wholly singular. Public men, who look ahead of their contemporaries, and who work for all times, and not for their own only, must lay their account to be misunderstood in turn by all parties—by none more than by that to whose professed principles they aim at giving a practical expression. Still, one cannot help speculating on what might be the result of having a dozen Roebucks in the House of Commons—not his equals, indeed, in intellectual might, but his *alter egos* in courage and incorruptibility—in that simplicity which can say "No," to the blandishments of high society—in that manly self-reliance that can weigh character against title—in that fidelity which can abhor a cheat, even when it is resorted to by friends—and in that self-respect which never stops to ask, "What will so-and-so think of me for this?" Why, the light which they would cast, by the mere force of their truthfulness, into the dark corners of the House of Commons, would be intolerable to many of the creeping habits which find shelter there. What a fluttering would there be on the Opposition side! What a scurrying on the side of the Treasury! What an amount of insolence towards the people would be suppressed! What numbers of irresolute but well-meaning men would take heart! This is a point for constituencies to ponder. If, where they have freedom of choice, they would exercise it with greater discrimination than the majority of them have done, popular control over the Government, of whatever party, would be far more complete than confessedly it is.

But, after all, the true remedy must be sought for in the revivification of the constituent bodies by a liberal infusion of fresh blood. The existing class of electors have themselves become conventional, and move in ruts of thought from which no agitation can extricate them. All freshness will be wanting, until the working class are admitted to the franchise. Administrative corruption can only be skinned over so long as our anomalous and deceptive system of representation is fundamentally unchanged. Nobody has seen this more clearly than Mr. Roebuck—nobody has more forcibly expressed it. We are glad that he pointed it out with such fidelity to the Liverpool Financial Reformers, and that he indicated it as the grand remedial agent relied upon by the Association over which he himself presides. It may be some time yet before public opinion is roused to an acknowledgment of the necessity of this change. But the time of awaking will come as surely as the sun will rise. And when it does come, they will be most trusted, and best prepared to turn it to account, who, like Arthur Roebuck, have laboured most honestly to bring it about.

TREATMENT OF CRIMINALS.

AN esteemed correspondent objects to the tone of our article last week, on "The Wages of Iniquity," as too favourable to the criminal, and privately remonstrates with us on the danger, at a time like the present, of palliating offences which are putting society in peril. Like many other good honest citizens, he is alarmed at the "prowling vagabonds" that infest the country, striking terror into the hearts of Her Majesty's peaceful subjects, and obliging them to take up arms in defence of their persons and their homes. His remonstrances afford us an opportunity of correcting one or two fallacies, and offering a remark or two on the general question of the treatment of our convict class.

Our correspondent complains of a supposed disposition on our part to palliate the crimes of the Redpaths and Robsons—"the villains and pests of society whose just doom is the gallows." We are sorry that he has so entirely misunderstood the drift of our article last week. Our aim was to show that society itself is in a great measure responsible for the offences for which these great criminals were convicted—not to "vindicate" men who have been justly punished for fraud and forgery. Can it be doubted that such crimes are encouraged by the commercial immorality of the day? It is not enough to call for vengeance upon the heads of convicted offenders against the law—those who would prevent as well as punish crime, are far better employed in endeavouring to trace the evil to its source. Legal penalties are generally sufficient to deter the educated from overt acts of crime, except under very strong temptation. But offenders like Redpath and Robson, and such instances of unprincipled trading and reckless speculation as our Bankruptcy Courts have for the past year furnished week by week, are the natural result of the social maxims and spirit of the day. In a state of society in which it is the fashion to sacrifice everything to success, where a man is honoured according to his outward respectability, and wealth is a better passport to distinction than worth, we seek in vain for that high-toned morality which is the best preservative against fraud and forgery. So long as our idols are the Dombeys and Merdles of actual life, we shall never be free from Montagu Tiggs and Ralph Nicklebys. A nation that tacitly permits a traffic to be carried on by a tributary Government, the results of which are most disastrous to the bodies and souls of men—such as the opium trade, must expect this vile spirit of cupidity to develop itself in other forms. The convicted Robsons and Redpaths are paying the penalty of the crimes. Is it not better and wiser, instead of confining our indignation to them, to direct it against immoral maxims and practices, which nurture such offenders?

Again, on the question of the ticket-of-leave system our correspondent thinks we are wrong. He asks, why, in the name of common sense, we have a costly police force to catch thieves, who, after a short probation and hypocritical appearance of reformation, are again let loose upon society? The ticket-of-leave system has nothing to do with the recent activity of crime—for this best of reasons, that up to the time when the outcry began not a single convict had been liberated under the Act of 1853, which instituted the licensing system. The convicts now at large consist of criminals lying under sentence of transportation when our colonies refused to receive them, and of offenders whose sentences had expired. The tickets-of-leave liberated since September, 1853, have amounted to 6,730, or at the rate of 2,000 a-year. Unhappily, this is but a small proportion of the criminal class liberated *unconditionally* from our various prisons. "The proportion for the three and a-quarter years in question (says the *Economist*) is about 6,730 to 90,000; and this latter number does not include those released after short terms of confinement on summary conviction. Indeed, this statement falls far short of the truth; and blue books assure us that upwards of 75,000 malefactors are let out of prison *every year*, and as a rule betake themselves again to crime."

Our correspondent, we fear, is scarcely aware of the magnitude of the problem he solves in so off-hand a manner. The question, as our contemporary puts it, is not "how shall we dispose of the 2,000 offenders who have of late been annually set at liberty with licences?" BUT "how shall we dispose of the 80,000 who have been for long—and *are still*—released every year from the gaols of Great Britain, with scarcely a resource or an alternative but renewed crime and depredation?" Our correspondent advocates increased severity of punishment. There is no doubt that out legal penalties have become too lax and deceptive. But laws of the most Draconic severity will do little to deter from crime thousands of men who are already outlaws in society, who have been trained to their present courses, and are unable to obtain honest means of livelihood. Has our correspondent read the piteous cases that have from time to time come before our police-courts of liberated convicts who have striven in vain to obtain employment, and have betaken themselves to stealing as their last resource? What is to be done with these Pariahs of society; with the hundreds of thousands—we fear they cannot be reckoned at less—who are in our midst, a degraded and branded class, who *must* live, but whom no one will employ? Society itself cannot shake off the responsibility or the burden. Year by year it is pressing upon us with increased severity. Apart from the perils which daily surround us from the depredations and outrages of the convict class, they are becoming an increasing tax upon the resources of the country. Our home system of penal discipline entails an expense of 700,000*l.* a year; and, according to the *Times*, for the punishment of crime we pay out of the funds administered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer more than *three* millions.

Where is all this to end? What is to be done to diminish this increasing tide of moral filth and corruption, let loose upon society, from all the prisons of the United Kingdom? We cannot transport our convicts. There is an end to that resource. There is but one colony—Western Australia—that will receive even a limited number of criminals, and those only the most corrigible. A new gigantic penal settlement in the Falkland Islands, Carpentaria, Vancouver's Island, or Hudson's Bay, would only prove another Pandemonium, not less costly than dreadful. We have also tried the separate system, the silent system, and the ticket-of-leave system, with no marked benefits, to say the least. Is it not time we tried, upon a large scale, the *industrial* system? Indeed, we *must*, in self-defence, have recourse to this expedient. "The expense in the cost and management of our prisons is so excessive under the existing system, that the State is obliged to sanction the passing of short sentences, and the Government is compelled to resort to tickets-of-leave and other temporising expedients, still further to abridge the actual sentences of the law." Such is the testimony of Mr. Charles Pearson, the City Solicitor. His admirable scheme of prison discipline, it may be recollected, we, several years ago, examined and commended. But though his wise plan has been uniformly approved of, it has been persistently neglected, by successive Governments. We are glad to find that it is once more before the public, and trust that it will receive adequate attention in any inquiry that may be instituted on the subject of penal punishments during the ensuing session. Mr. Pearson properly calls it "the self-supporting system." He proposes to employ the "confiscated labour" of the convict for the benefit of the State and his own moral and social reform. The following extract from his letter to the Lord Mayor contains the gist of his proposal:—

> The proposed plan for accomplishing these objects as described to the committee contemplated the establishment of large industrial prisons, secure and strong, plain and cheap, with separate sleeping cells for each inmate. The prison to be surrounded by strong and lofty walls, enclosing 1,000 or 2,000 acres of land. I propose that each of these prisons shall accommodate 1,000 or 2,000 inmates, classified, sub-classified, and distributed in different prisons according to their economical condition, whether artisans, mechanics, or labourers; according to their physical state, their age and strength; according to their moral and legal *status*; whether felons or misdemeanants under longer or shorter sentences, and whether hardened offenders or novices in crime. By having one superintending power to deal with the large

fund of labour of our prison population, means would readily be obtained for a most perfect system of classification — legal, moral, social, and economical — for the purpose of meeting all the various objects I have described, so that the mutual contamination of prisoners might be prevented, discipline might be enforced, and the separation of the prisoner—one of the first objects of the system—might be promoted, at the same time that justice would be done to the ratepayer by turning the confiscated labour of the criminal to the best and most profitable account. When the proposed plans for the classification of prisoners is complete, I propose that they shall, as nearly as economical considerations and prison arrangements will admit, be employed in the pursuits at which they are most apt, and to which they will be returned at the termination of their sentences.

The advantages of the scheme are obvious. It would to some extent reimburse the State for the cost of the convict's maintenance—it would initiate the criminal himself into industrial habits and provide him a resource when he returned to society—it would get rid of "prison palaces and castles of indolence"—and by lessening the cost of our prison discipline, it would enable the administrators of the law to inflict *adequate* and real penalties, and thus save the country from being inundated with lightly punished and unreformed vagabonds. Moreover, the experience of Captain Crofton, Chairman of Directors of Irish Convict Prisons, shows how successful the industrial system may become, and how reclaimable are the better class of convicts under judicious management. In the pamphlet just published by him, he states that some of the prisoners are employed on messengers' duties daily throughout Dublin, and also in special works required by the department outside the prison walls. Yet although the men have been allowed a small portion of their weekly earnings, not a single instance has yet taken place of the slightest irregularity, nor even want of punctuality. Such beneficial results need not be singular. To give a chance to the convict is not inconsistent with severe punishment; and if, by suitable training and discipline, he should become better fitted to earn his own living when released, both society and himself will be the gainer. "No Prisoners' Aid or Patronage Society could better open for them [our criminals] the chances of a new career (says the *Daily News*) than this intermediate stage of probationary labour. How infinitely more humane, as well as wiser, thus to keep the convict, when ripe for a conditional discharge, under surveillance as a probationary labourer, than to throw him loose on a society that rejects and repudiates him under the mock liberty of a ticket-of-leave. How infinitely wiser and more humane to enable him in this stage, in case he fails to procure home employment, to lay by a fund from his spare earnings for the purpose of emigrating either to Western Australia or some free colony, than to ship him off beyond the seas to some mere penal settlement, some place of wailing and gnashing of teeth, where his cost to the mother country will be 'monstrous,' his chances of escape considerable, and his chances of reclamation next to nothing at all."

RAGGED SCHOOLS AND THE STATE.

CONSIDERING the keenness with which social questions have been discussed during the recess, it is natural that the question of popular education should be included among the political rumours, announcements, and suggestions which commonly herald the approach of the parliamentary session. It is true that we have as yet heard nothing of Lord John Russell, who, if popular report is to be credited, intends to make reform, rather than education, his sessional card. The Government, too, promise nothing more, as yet, than the bringing forth of that *ridiculus mus*, the appointment of Mr. Cowper, now head of the precarious Board of Health, to the post of Vice-President of the Committee of Council—created last summer, but providently kept open to meet possible Cabinet contingencies. It may be, therefore, that the new firm of Pakington and Cobden, whose alliance has now been ratified by agreement on the heads of a veritable Bill, may have the parliamentary field to themselves; the Government preferring the less pretentious but more dangerous course of silently multiplying "minutes," grants, and inspectorships, without incurring the risks of parliamentary discussion, or being subject to the salutary influence of parliamentary control.

It is to a new form of danger, threatened from this last quarter, that we now wish to call attention, for there are indications that the Privy Council-office is fixing its evil eye on our ragged schools and reformatories, with a view to bringing them within the charmed circle of State-paid institutions.

The *Daily News* applauds the appointment of an Inspector of Reformatories, as bringing them "within the control of Government," and as being likely to introduce into their management that idol of the Circumlocution-office, "uniformity." It applauds the motives of the founders of such institutions, but suggests that "it is hardly possible to find such vigour and enthusiasm untainted by something of self-willed vanity," and as their "patrons" may not be willing "to surrender their individual crotchets," care must be exercised to prevent personal wrangling instead of the hearty co-operation which is professedly desired. Ragged schools are declared to come within the same category. To exclude either class of agency "from any scheme of National Education is an error, not only flagrant, but utterly indefensible," and, finally, it is urged, "Let a comprehensive plan of action be organised; let the reformatories and ragged schools be made subject to the same inspection, and derive as much assistance from the State as the parish school and other places of education."

We should have attached but little importance to such suggestions, but for the response elicited from a gentleman whose official position is likely to give to his opinions a weight which they would not otherwise possess. Mr. William Locke, who signs himself "Hon. Secretary to the Ragged School Union," accepts the article of the *Daily News*, as one "which must be acknowledged to be very much to the point." He says he has been engaged in ragged school work for thirteen years, "and ought to know something about it." We have now in London, he says, above 150 schools.

Teachers and scholars have increased in proportion, until we have now about 20,000 children connected with us. At first, it was simply a school for poor outcasts; now we have industrial classes, clothing clubs, penny banks, mothers' meetings, &c., connected with many schools, all increasing the good done, especially in very poor and dense localities. And yet we entirely depend upon voluntary subscription—

We pause in our quotation, to give the reader an opportunity of guessing what follows. Is it a homily on the capabilities of Voluntaryism, as the simple-minded might suppose? On the contrary, we have *an misericordiam* appeal for Government money:—

And cannot yet partake of Government money, as the minutes are not made to embrace the simple ragged schools, but apply either to preventive or reformatory institutions, where food is given, trades taught, and criminals admitted, which is not the case in our simple ragged schools.

Now we had assumed that, so far as ragged schools were concerned, the question of State-interference was closed by Lord Shaftesbury's emphatic deprecation of any Governmental tampering with the institutions with which his own name is so honourably identified. Has his lordship recanted, and discovered his earnest conviction, of a few years ago to be a heresy? and has he chosen Mr. Locke as his mouth-piece? Does that gentleman write as the official representative of the Ragged School Union; and, if so, are the committee of that body feeling the public pulse, preparatory to having "a pull at the Exchequer?" We have a right to put and to press these inquiries, as representing a by no means inconsiderable body of individuals whose attachment to ragged school work is as great as that of Mr. Locke, and who would strongly deprecate that which he desires, and still more any covert attempt to hand over to the State-educationist the noblest organisation which modern voluntaryism has created.

Mr. Locke scarcely attempts to make out a case in support of a policy to which he commits himself without any apparent consciousness of the dangers it may possibly involve. He does not say that the 150 schools, as at present conducted, are failures. He does not even complain of the quality of the education received by his 20,000 *protégés*. He does not appeal as on behalf of a struggling and sinking cause. It does not occur to him that, where so much has been done without State-pay and patronage, both may perhaps be dispensed with. His one plea is, "the good we do by preventing crime, and nipping it in the bud, is apparent, and is acknowledged by all."

The efforts of humble Christian men and women in Edinburgh and Glasgow, as well as in London and other large towns, has (*sic*) now shown our rulers what can be done with our outcast and destitute juveniles; and if they fail to help forward the work when they must clearly see the policy and economy of it, it will evince a degree of political blindness hardly credible in a common sense age like ours.

If "political blindness" did not sometimes afflict the ruler, as well as the ruled, we should urge Mr. Locke to study carefully the article which has called forth his own ill-judged comments. According to the *Daily News*, it is "one of the principal duties of a wise Government," and of "a sagacious Minister," to stand by while "enthusiasts" inaugurate schemes for the welfare of society, and then, "when the public mind is thoroughly convinced of their advantages—when objectors are silenced, and the private associations are daily augmented—when, in short, there is a general interest felt in the question"—"*this is the time for the interference of a statesman!*" Just so. This is the principle on which State-meddling for philanthropic purposes has usually proceeded. Realising the old lexicographer's description of a patron, Governments have generally left society to shift for itself in satisfying its own moral wants, and when, after long toil and struggling, the means of supplying them have been discovered, when individual enterprise and self-sacrifice have done the rough work of social regeneration, statesmen have stepped in with their aid, and under the pretext of "adding force to individual enthusiasm," have choked that enthusiasm with coils of red-tape, and, in place of the "crotchets" and "self-willed vanity" of spontaneous agents, have fastened round the nation's neck a heavier load of official incompetency, thriftlessness, and corruption.

There is no doubt that ragged schools and kindred institutions are "doing good" on a great scale, and are both eradicating and preventing vagabondage and crime; while many of our public men and journalists are only writing up the desirableness of such a result, and enumerating the difficulties in the way. But does it follow that every agency for doing good must needs be helped by the Government; and is the withholding of such help, irrespective of the necessities of the case, to be whined over as a grievance? We have a firm conviction that the success and the popularity of ragged schools is greatly to be attributed to the spirit of willinghood and of generous adventure with which they have been planned and hitherto sustained. They sought to grapple with evils too desperate to be alleviated by any of the established and conventional systems already in existence. They required a power of self-adaptation, an intuitive sense of fitness, a plastic agency, such as no Government machinery could supply; and they must be maintained in the same spirit, and by a reliance on the same means. It would, of course, be far easier to support schools by capitation grants than by subscription lists. The visits of inspectors might involve less trouble than the systematic supervision of committees. But with these there would inevitably come a diminished sense of responsibility, on the part of those on whose zeal and liberality ragged schools must now exclusively rely, and the Government, which intervened only to co-operate in a prosperous undertaking, would be left to work unaided, machinery, the motive power of which it had destroyed. Surely the maxim, "Let well alone," was never more applicable than here; and, with such conviction, there will, we hope, be a determination to resist any encroachments which State-educationists may threaten, or inconsiderate philanthropists may invite.

CHIT-CHAT OF THE WEEK.

LORD SHAFTESBURY'S *faux pas* in relinquishing his appointment to take the chair at the great London meeting, for the Suppression of the Opium Traffic (albeit by royal command, issued, however, at the instance of his noble relative, the Premier), for the purpose of witnessing the performance of the "School for Scandal," at Windsor, has been the subject of much uncomplimentary and damaging remark. How Palmerston must have chuckled at having thus jockied "the saints," by depriving the obnoxious assembly of the *prestige* of the pious Earl's presence, and at the same time securing it for this not over pure theatrical representation! What materials for a new scene in that classical drama! We have heard of Sir Samuel Morton Peto's declining the honour of meeting his sovereign on the ground of an engagement to lay the first stone of a village chapel on the same day. Why did not the patrician philanthropist display the same noble firmness of principle?

Two of the most eminent members of the metropolitan daily press have been getting into scrapes. The failing faculties of that venerable gentlewoman, the *Herald*, have been again shamefully imposed upon, and it has been hoaxed into the belief of a new coalition between the Peelites and Palmerston. It is a mare's nest which would have done credit to that beery organ, the *Advertiser*. The blunder of the *Times* is a more harmless, if a more excusable one. At least, the only palliation is, that an arithmetical calculation, which many a Ragged School boy would be ashamed of, had been made by a Parliamentary committee and allowed to pass by a Fellow of Oxford. On the assumption that because the 4,000 gentlemen and ladies who annually "leave their country for their country's good" cost the nation 400,000*l.* in the aggregate, each convict stands us in 1,000*l.*, the leading journal lashed itself and its readers into a foam of fury. The next day it tried to sneak out with an apology for a misprint, like another notorious character in a somewhat more flagrant case, of which our readers may know something. But, unfortunately, in both instances, the correction of the typographical error would involve hundreds of words, not simply a single figure. Here, then, we have fresh illustration afforded of the truth of Dr. Watts's lines:—

"And he that does one fault at first,
And lies to hide it, makes it two."

There are certainly some persons high in pretension as teachers of the people the presentation to whom of a copy of Cocker's Arithmetic and the Divine and

Moral Songs. would not be a piece of superfluous charity.

On the result of the meetings of the Congregational Union, opinions are much divided. Mr. Binney avowed his conviction on the Wednesday that the proceedings of the previous day were "hollow from beginning to end," and the *Christian Times* appears to think the same of the whole. On the other hand, the *Patriot* and *Banner* seem to congratulate their readers on the fact that Christian ministers refrained from garotting one another. That the denomination has at last really some prospect of ridding itself of its "great scandal," its sense of which was pretty plainly shown, is almost universally allowed. Mr. Binney has put into circulation his statement of the causes of the failure of the attempt to arbitrate between himself and Dr. Campbell. He says that after ten weeks of evasion, Dr. Campbell at last proposed a total change in the constitution of the tribunal previously accepted on both sides, actually insisting on an increase of the number of arbitrators from four to eight! This plan was felt by Mr. Binney's referees to be "so essentially impracticable and extraordinary," that they could not consent to be parties "to what must prove only a delusion and a mockery," and therefore retired, along with their principal, from the affair. As was to be expected, there is a little harmless by-play in the pamphlet. Thus, as a set-off against the sarcasm on his former letter, that "it was at first circulated without being published, and then published without being circulated," a witticism is cited by Mr. Binney touching the difference between a certain ancient and a certain modern lawgiver, viz., "that whilst the one made a tabernacle in the wilderness, the other has made a wilderness in the Tabernacle." The issuing of this printed statement is to be attributed to the refusal of the Assembly to have the matter discussed before it. Another of the episodes of the meeting was the revival, by Mr. Ashby, of the hacknied suggestion of a Sustentation Fund (of about 5,000*l. per annum* to be shared amongst 250 poor ministers), which fell coldly enough on the Union, but has since been zealously advocated by the *Patriot*, the Presbyterian tendencies of which paper have lately been much remarked. By the bye, Mr. Spurgeon, on Sunday last, made a collection at the Music Hall for a somewhat similar fund, which it seems eight of the London Baptist Churches unite in raising for the benefit of their needy evangelists in the country. His text was the last clause of Luke vii. 22, and his pecuniary appeal was founded on Wicliff's translation of the words, "Poor men have taken to the preaching of the Gospel." Addressing, in the course of his remarks, any friends of the Pastoral Aid Society who might be presumed to be present amongst his six thousand hearers, he told them he knew of an infallible method for multiplying curates in the Church. "*Split a bishop into fifty!*" said he—a sally which called forth the nearest approach to a clap that has, perhaps, ever been heard in a modern worshipping assembly. Mr. Spurgeon's appeal, realised we believe, some 90*l.*

Speaking of the Music Hall, reminds us of Mr. Thackeray's Lectures on the "Four Georges," the first of which is to be delivered there this evening. Misgivings have been expressed as to whether his voice will be able to compass the vast space. But, surely, though his instrument be not so powerful as Mr. Spurgeon's, his provincial successes, at Edinburgh, for instance, warrant us in auguring for the best. The *Press*, we find, is rather angry at the series, both on general grounds, as deeming the practice of questionable benefit to the interests of literature and the dignity of the literary man, and also on account of the satirist's treatment of what it chooses to style "the nobleness of the eighteenth century." Meanwhile, any protest against this method of reaching the public mind seems to be heeded no more than the idle wind, if we may judge from the recent examples of Lord Lyttleton's Lectures on "Shakspere," at the Manchester Athenæum, Canon Stowell's on "Manchester Life," Mr. Adderley's on "The History of England," and many others. As to the "nobleness" of the period discussed by Mr. Thackeray, there is no denying that in his hands it does not stand much chance. But the *Press*, which seems so fond of this epoch, that it would fain revive its fine old party warfare and orthodox struggles between the Whig and Tory lords, for the command of the potwallopers, may rest assured that the lecturer on the Georges is not the first, and will not be the last, to brand the eighteenth century as the dreariest and most barren since the Christian era.

At the beginning of that century flourished Thomas Hearne, the Oxford antiquary, whose diary, recently edited by Principal Bliss, has attained a certain measure of popularity, chiefly on account of the new glimpses it affords us of Milton, Handel, Pope, and other great men, his predecessors and contemporaries, about whom the old Jacobite Dryasdust was curious in making inquiries, and diligent and conscientious enough faithfully to note them down. We extract, as likely to interest our readers, what the "Reliquiæ Hearnianæ" (for that is the title of the book) has to say upon Milton's alleged change of religion at the close of his life. One of Hearne's notices of the subject occurs under the very first day with which the "Diary" opens, and the other in the year following:—

1705, July 4.—Mr. William Joyner . . . gave large encomiums of Mr. Milton, but denies that he died a Papist.

1706, Sept. 16.—Dr. Hudson has often inquired of Mr. Joyner, who was intimately acquainted with Mr. Milton, whether the said Mr. Milton died a Papist or no: To which Mr. Joyner constantly replyed, that he was sure he did not. Yet for all this 'tis credibly reported, that sir Christopher Milton, his brother, made a judge in king James's reign, declared publickly in company, that his brother died a Papist, and had lived in that communion for above ten years before. For further satisfaction about this, consult a sermon printed by Dr. Binks, now dean of Lichfield, which was preached at the assize at Warwick.

Sir Christopher Milton was himself, it should be borne in mind, a deserter from the Reformed faith. His brother, the poet, died in 1674, having published only the year before his treatise on "True Religion," in which he denounces the Roman Catholics as the only true heretics, and excludes them from the toleration which he claims for all other sects of Christians, without, however, maintaining the right of the civil power to persecute even them. Hence the story of his having lived a Papist for ten years before his death, so far from being "credibly reported," as Hearne foolishly says, is contrary to well-ascertained fact, as he might and ought to have known.

As a pendent to the above, we quote from another new work, by Mr. Dowling, ("Poets and Statesmen; their Homes and Haunts in the Neighbourhood of Eton and Windsor,") the following account of Horton, where the mighty bard lived with his mother up to the time of her death:—

Leaving Windsor, and proceeding through the soft woodland scenery of the Home Park, we cross the Thames by the Victoria Bridge, and in half-an-hour find ourselves passing through Datchet. Stepping forward for another half-hour, we reach Horton. Here then we are again treading the lanes where, in his younger days, the mighty Poet walked. But one disappointment awaits him who enters Horton searching for memorials of Milton. Not a vestige remains of the house in which he lived. At Chalfont we mourned the loss of the old porch, but here not one stone has been left upon another, not one suggestive mark remains. The *site* of his former home is, however, well-known.

A modern mansion occupies the spot where once stood the house of Milton. The situation is retired, without being secluded. It is just beyond the sound of the village hum, yet from its windows the chimneys and roofs of each peasant home are visible. The ancient church-tower, now garlanded with ivy, must have stood in full view of the old house. The embattled keep of Windsor Castle bounded the prospect on one side, whilst on the other the hills of Surrey, looking down on Runnymede, presented their outlines to the poet's eye.

We asked an old man, who by the help of a stout stick was limping along the road—"Is that the place where Milton's house stood?" "Yes, Sir," was his answer, "that it is, but it's all gone now; and," continued the man, with some vehemence, "the old tree where he used to sit and write poetry, that's gone too." How proudly might Horton have felt, had both the house and the tree been preserved. No place in England could then have exhibited such memorials of Milton's early days. The men of the last generation were able to look upon these expressive remembrancers of the poet, for the old house appears to have remained till the year 1798.

The mother of the great poet lies buried in the chancel of the parish church. The villagers seem to pride themselves on this indubitable and sole visible sign of their connexion with the history of the bard. One little incident seems to prove this. Being unacquainted with Horton, we were uncertain in what direction the church or the site of Milton's abode was to be looked for. Turning about for some guide, we noticed a neat matronly-looking woman tending her little cottage garden. Without any preface we put the question, "Do you know where Milton's house stood?" "Indeed, I don't," said she; "but I dare say the clerk does; but, Sir, Milton's mother is buried in the church—that I know." Poor woman! how natural was her feeling, that the *mother* of a great man should bear some portion of his honour! We entered the church, having paused for a minute to note the fine ancient door-way at the North end, and immediately came upon the grave of "Sara Milton." In the centre of the chancel, a dark slab lies level with the floor: it bears no heraldic devices, not one word of praise or regret meets the eye: three lines of rather rudely-carved letters tell the simple but solemn tale—

"HEARE LYETH THE BODY OF SARA MILTON THE WIFE
OF JOHN MILTON WHO DIED
THE 3RD OF APRIL 1637."

The mother appears to have been the link which bound the poet to Horton: after her death he departed on a tour through Italy, and this village saw him no more.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

There was a second theatrical entertainment at Windsor Castle on Thursday; the plays selected being "Our Wife; or the Rose of Amiens," and "Deaf as a Post." Among the guests were the Marquis of Abercorn, Rear-Admiral W. A. B. Hamilton, Lord Burghersh, Sir Charles Wood, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Count Lavradio, the Earl of Shelburne, the Duke and Duchess de Nemours, the Earl and Countess of Derby, Sir George and Lady Grey, Prince Edward of Leiningen, and the Count of Flanders. The Bishop of Ripon had audience of the Queen on Friday, and did homage to Her Majesty on his appointment. The Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer, Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, Lord Panmure, and Colonel Francis Seymour arrived on a short visit. In the afternoon the Queen held an Investiture of the Order of the Bath at the Castle. The Prince of Wales and the Count of Flanders witnessed the ceremony. The Queen, as Sovereign of the Bath, and Prince Albert as Great Master of the Order, both wore their respective mantles, and also the collar of the Order. Earl St. Germans received the Order of a (Civil) Knight Grand Cross of the Bath, Rear-Admiral Elliot (Civil), Hon. John D. Bligh (Civil), Mr. John F. Crampton (Civil), Lieut.-Gen. S. B. Auchmuty, Lieut.-Gen. Nathaniel Thorn, Rear-Admiral Freemantle, Rear-Admiral the Hon. F. W. Grey, Colonel H. K. Storks, Lieut.-Gen. G. P. Wymer, Major-Gen. R. J. Hussey Vivian, and Mr. J. G. Shaw Lefevre (Civil), had the honour of Knighthood conferred upon them by the Queen, and were invested with the insignia of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the Order. Several Companions of the Bath were severally introduced and received from the Queen the insignia of their respectiv divisions in the third class of the order. Luncheon was served to the Knights and Officers of the Order of the Bath in the Rubens' Room. On Monday the Count of Flanders left Windsor for Belgium.

The Queen has intimated her intention not to open Parliament in person. The Speech from the Throne upon the re-assembling of Parliament will, therefore, be delivered by Lords Commissioners on Tuesday, the 3rd Feburary. The Address, in answer to the speech from the Throne, will be moved in the Lords by the Earl of Cork, and we believe will be seconded by Earl Cowper. Both these young noblemen have but lately succeeded, at an early age, to their family honours. The Address of the Commons will be moved by Sir John Ramsden, Bart., member for the borough of Taunton, and seconded by Sir Andrew Agnew, Bart., member for Wigtonshire.—*Observer.*

Cabinet Councils were held on Wednesday, Friday, Monday, and yesterday.

The Ministerial dinner parties on the opening of the session will be given by Viscount Palmerston and Earl Granville to the supporters of Government in either house. Both these State dinners will take place on Monday, Feb. 2. Lord Palmerston's at Cambridge House, Piccadilly, and Lord Granville's at his residence in Bruton-street.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston returned to town on Monday from Windsor Castle.

Lord John Russell, M.P., arrived in town on Monday evening from Florence, in order to attend to his parliamentary duties.

The County Court Judgeship, vacant by the death of Mr. Kekewich, will be filled by Mr. Charles Dacres Bevan, of the Western Circuit.

The Earl and Countess of Clarendon, during the last few days, have entertained a select circle at the Grove, near Watford, and their guests have included the Austrian Minister and the Countess d'Apponi, the Russian Minister and the Countess of Creptowich, the Earl and Countess Granville, the Earl of Verulam, the Earl and Countess Stanhope, Count Pahlen, Mr. C. P. Villiers, &c.

The *Daily News* gives several rumours, on the authority of a West-end correspondent, viz., that a commission on the claims of the Medical Officers of the Army is to be issued, over which Mr. Sidney Herbert is to be invited to preside; that though the Cabinet cannot yet see its way clearly, some reduction in the Income-tax may be looked for; and that Sir Robert Peel will have to leave the Government. [The latter is most probable.]

Mr. Baron Alderson, who died yesterday, had during the last week been in a hopeless state. The *Morning Star* says: "The vacancy which will be created amongst the Barons of the Court of Exchequer by the retirement of Baron Alderson—his lordship having intimated his intention of resigning his seat in the event of his recovery—will be followed by the elevation of Mr. James Stuart Wortley, Solicitor-General. Mr. Justice Coleridge, who intended retiring from the Bench at the close of the present term, will remain in London during the forthcoming vacation, and will not resign his judgeship until next term. It is supposed that Mr. Serjeant Shee, or Mr. Collier, M.P., will succeed Mr. Stuart Worsley in the office of Solicitor-General."

"The General Committee on Education" is to commence operations at Manchester, by a Free-trade Hall meeting, on the evening of the 6th February, at which Sir John Pakington and Mr. Cobden are expected to be present. A conference, for free discussion of the proposed scheme, is to be held in the library hall of the Athenæum on the evening of the 30th, and it is said that numerous important accessions to the committee have recently been obtained.

We beg to remind our readers that the 31st inst. is the last day for completing freehold and copyhold qualifications, so as to be entitled to claim at the next registration.

At the annual meeting of the Manchester party next week a deputation is to be present from the Ballot Society, London, including Mr. Whitehurst and other gentlemen. A letter from Mr. Bright, dated from Cannes, is also to be read. The honourable gentleman is now at Nice.

Some changes in the higher offices of the War Department will probably take place next week, with the view of bringing the organisation of the office to a state calculated to render the course of business more simple and expeditious. The office of Deputy-Secretary will, like that of Secretary-at-War, be abolished; and Sir Benjamin Hawes, who has most efficiently

discharged the duties of the office for nearly six years, will now become permanent Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Peel retaining the Parliamentary Under-Secretaryship, and Colonel Mundy obtaining a military command. The office of Secretary to the Ordnance will also be abolished, as the Ordnance branch is now amalgamated with the army generally. We understand that Mr. Godley, now Director-General of Stores, will be Assistant-Under-Secretary to the department under the new organisation.—*Globe.*

On Monday, Sir G. Grey gave notice to the inhabitants and parochial authorities of St. Giles's-in-the-fields, St. James's, Clapham, and St. George's, Bloomsbury, and the trustees of the Wesleyan Chapel, in Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, that, for the protection of the public health, burials should be discontinued in the vaults beneath St. Giles's, St. George's Church, St. James's, Clapham, and the said Wesleyan chapel; and that on the 12th February, under the 15th and 16th of Vic., an order in Council would be issued forbidding all such interments. The Home Secretary has issued instructions for a strict survey of all the graveyards and church-vaults in London, so as to enforce the provisions of the Metropolitan Burial Act, for the preservation of the public health.

A rumour is in circulation that Mr. Drummond, M.P., one of the surviving apostles of the Irvingites, has just separated from that singular body, and sold his "apostolic" chapel at Albury to the Roman Catholics.

It is stated that the Rev. W. H. Milman, librarian of Zion College, and son of the Dean of St. Paul's, will be Archdeacon Hale's successor, at St. Giles's, Cripplegate.

The *Gazette* of Friday announces that the Queen has given orders for the appointment of Major-General Vivian, late Commander of the Turkish Contingent, and John George Shaw Lefevre, Esq., Clerk of the Parliaments, to be Knights Commanders of the Bath; likewise of Colonel Ferryman, 89th Regiment, and Henry William Gordon, Esq., late Principal Storekeeper to the Army in the East, to be Companions of the Order.

The *Gazette* of Friday announces the appointment of Lord Napier to be Her Majesty's Minister to the United States.

The Right Hon. Edward Lowe, M.P., Vice-President of the Board of Trade, has been on a visit to Manchester this week.

It is repeated that the new Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, Sir Alexander Cockburn, is certainly to receive a peerage. His title will, it is added, be that of Lord Langton, after the name of the family estates in Berwick, which now belong to the Marquis of Breadalbane.

Miscellaneous News.

During the last few days, no fewer than three unfortunate women have been found dead in the snow, within the county of Forfar.

A fine American ship of 1,180 tons, the Confederation, Captain Corning, has gone ashore off the Welch coast, and become a wreck. The crew were saved by the life-boat.

Amelia Collier, of Waterham, Kent, who, being charged with child murder, had absconded, has been arrested on board the Sabrina, which was about to leave Southampton for Australia.

The Glasgow Town Council, by a majority of thirty to fifteen, have agreed to purchase the lands of Pathhead, and other property on the south side of the city, for the sum of 30,000*l.*, for the purpose of constructing a third public park.

The Ramsgate life-boat saved forty lives, a few days since, from the American ship Kilby, ashore on the Goodwin Sands. The ship was seen ashore from Ramsgate, and the lifeboat instantly sent off to the rescue of the crew, which were safely and gallantly saved from certain death.

On Sunday morning the inhabitants of Gravel-lane, Southwark, were thrown into a state of great alarm by a tremendous explosion occasioned by an escape of gas on the premises of Mr. J. Wilendon, furniture broker. The family were terribly shaken, but no serious injury took place.

It is still doubtful whether the steamer Tyne can be got off the rocks at St. Alban's Head. The attempt last week failed. Except by half-a-dozen men left on the spot, she is for the present abandoned. Should the vessel hold together, a further attempt will be made when the weather shall have become more favourable. On Monday, the official inquiry into the loss of the steamer is to commence at Southampton.

Last night the fifth of Mr. Ernest Jones's *soirées* took place at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre, which was well filled by a most respectable audience. The subject selected by Mr. Jones on this occasion was "Foreign Affairs." During his address Mr. Jones was much applauded. Some choice music was very nicely executed during the evening and gave general satisfaction.

The *Carnarvon Herald* records a sad and remarkable fatality: A few days ago a poor man, residing near Holyhead, left home in the morning for the purpose of attending the funeral of his father, who had died some days previously. During his absence from home a letter arrived from a distant brother, reminding him of the interment, lest he should not have had timely notice to be present. The wife observing it was closed with a black seal, opened it, and, imagining it contained an announcement of the demise of her father, became so shocked that she died in a few hours. The brother, who had written, on his arrival home went to look after a cow which he had recently bought, and, to his grief, found her quite dead in the cow-house. When he returned to the house, he had again to witness the sad spectacle of his little girl being enveloped in flames, her clothes having caught fire, whereby the little thing was so frightfully burnt that she soon expired from the effects. Her mother, being in a delicate state, was taken ill the same evening, but is recovering.

The annual soirée of the Bristol Athenæum was held on Wednesday evening. The attendance could have scarcely fallen short of 2,000 persons; and amongst the celebrities present was Lieut.-Colonel Simmons, Her Majesty's Commissioner in Turkey, who was made the "lion" of the evening. The public meeting was held in the great saloon, and was addressed by the Mayor, Mr. Recorder Hill, and Colonel Simmons. The gallant colonel received a very warm reception, and delivered an address upon the late war, which excited much interest.

An act of suicide, coupled with an attempt at murder, has been committed at Birmingham. A grainer, one Keatley, who lived very unhappily with his wife, on Tuesday morning, about eight o'clock, attacked and struck her a tremendous blow on the head with the poker, fracturing her skull. The poor woman managed to escape into the back court crying for assistance. Her neighbours rushed in, but not in time to prevent Keatley from cutting his own throat. Surgical aid was speedily at hand, but the man died in a few seconds. His wife lies in a precarious state.

On Wednesday, the Board of Guardians of the City of London Union, in consequence of Guerrino Charles Manini, of 61, Torrington-square, one of the collectors who absconded on the 13th ultimo with 18,000*l.* of the poor-rates, still remaining at large, have increased the reward for his capture to 200*l.*; and any person merely giving such information as will lead to his apprehension, is to receive the reward. The police have reason to think the delinquent is concealed by some of his Italian friends residing near Saffron-hill, in which locality Foschini the assassin was sheltered until he got out to America.

The Manchester Art Treasures Exhibition Committee have decided upon the formation of a collection of Celtic and Anglo-Saxon antiquities, illustrating the state of art in these islands from the very earliest period. This department has been entrusted to the charge of Mr. J. M. Kemble, whose studies in these branches of archæological science are well known in this country and on the Continent. The Duke of Richmond, who from the first has been a warm friend of the exhibition, will contribute several valuable paintings from the galleries at Gordon and Goodwood.

On the 25th of March, 1856 (commonly called Lady-day), there were 27,429 boys and 24,157 girls in the workhouses of 653 unions, &c., in England and Wales. Of the boys, 3,955 were under three years of age, 6,886 between three and seven, and 16,588 of seven years old and upwards. Of the girls, 3,717 were under three years, 6,166 between three and seven, and 14,274 of seven years old and upwards. 3,001 boys and 2,785 girls were fit for service. Of the boys, 6,676 were illegitimate, and of the girls 6,093. The counties that figure for the largest number of pauper children are Devon, Essex, Gloucester, Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Somerset, Surrey, and the West Riding of Yorkshire.

A parliamentary paper, issued at the instance of Sir John Pakington, gives some particulars of the working of the Criminal Justice Act, from the time it came into operation, in August, 1855, to the end of last March. The total number of convictions in eight months was 5,086; the largest number in any month being in January, when the convictions amounted to 905. The crimes consisted of various descriptions of larceny, 4,452 being simple larceny, 391 larceny by a servant, 159 from the person, and 84 attempts at larceny. The punishments awarded range from six months' imprisonment downwards; but only about 500 sentences exceeded three months, while 1,333 were under one month.

On Wednesday last, a labourer named Hogarth, while proceeding along the turnpike road near the village of Smallholm, was set upon by twelve weasels. At first he observed them emerge out of a dry stone dike, and when he was within fifty yards they made towards him in a body. He armed himself with a "grievous crabtree cudgel," and awaited the approach of his assailants. They came leisurely on, and when close to him, despite the menacing attitude he assumed, nine of their number attacked him in front, and made two or three ineffectual attempts to fasten their teeth in his trousers, but by the active use of his weapon five of the nine were killed; the other four escaped. By this time three of them had got behind, and clung tenaciously to his legs, actually suffering themselves to be killed rather than release their hold. Of the attacking force he succeeded in destroying eight.—*Kelso Mail.*

A *soirée*, in connection with the Birmingham and Midland Institute, was held on Friday evening, at the Music-hall, Birmingham. The attendance was numerous, and included Colonel Sykes, chairman of the East India Company, with whom were Mr. Sheriff Mechi, and Dr. Booth, as a deputation from the London Society of Arts, to explain the system recently established by the society for the examination of students attending classes of literary and scientific institutions, and for awarding prizes and certificates to meritorious candidates. The company assembled at six o'clock, and passed a couple of hours very pleasantly in partaking of tea and coffee, and in inspecting an extensive display of photographic pictures, specimens of the photo-galvanographic process, stereoscopes, microscopes, bronzes, electro-deposits, and other objects of artistic and scientific interest. A delightful evening was spent by the assembly, and speeches were delivered by Colonel Sykes, Dr. Booth, Mr. Sheriff Mechi, and other gentlemen.

Law and Police.

THE CASE OF ALICIA RACE—ALLEGED PROSELYTISM.—An important case has been before the Court of Queen's Bench. The question to be decided by the Court was, whether the child, Alicia Race, who is now at the Sailors' Orphan School, at Hampstead, should be allowed to remain there, according to her expressed wishes, or whether she should be delivered up to the custody of her mother. Serjeant Shee and Mr. Finlaison were in attendance on the part of the mother; Mr. O'Malley for the school; Mr. Bovill, Q.C., and Mr. Lush represented the commissioners of the Patriotic Fund. From the affidavits it appeared that the girl was the daughter of Lauman Race, late sergeant of Marines, killed in action off Petropaulovski in 1854; that in 1855 she had been placed in the asylum at Hampstead, and her brother John Race in the Sailors' Orphan Boys' Home at Chardstock, Dorset; both institutions under the control of the Patriotic Fund. John Race had been removed from Chardstock by his mother; and she desired to remove her daughter from Hampstead, but here she met with difficulties. Mrs. Race is a Roman Catholic; Sergeant Race was a Protestant; the little girl at Hampstead—so it appeared from the affidavits—desired not to "go to the Roman Catholic school," not "to bow down nor pray to the Virgin Mary, or other images," for that would be, she said, "disobeying Jesus." She said to her mother, "Mother, I can't go; I will not go." She desired "to remain under Protestant teaching." As, however, "the gentleman" who had promised "to get a school for the boy," said he could "not take one without the other," Mrs. Race, although it "went to her heart" to take the girl from Hampstead, persevered: hence this action. Serjeant Shee appeared on behalf of Mrs. Race. He contended that the Court ought to give up the child to the custody of the mother, as the testamentary guardian under the will of her late husband. He read a letter, written by Sergeant Race, just before going into action, from which the following are extracts:—

My dear Alicia, I have made my will to you, and I trust you will carry it out according to my wish. I wish, my dear, that you will remain a widow until the children are capable of taking care of themselves. I hope, my dear, that you will not disregard this my last wish, as I should not die happy if I thought a stepfather would be over my babes; but I feel confident that you will not forget my last wish. . . . I have settled all my worldly affairs as far as I can. My dear wife, kiss my dear children for me, as a last embrace from a loving father, and tell them his last thoughts were for them, and bring them up in the fear of the Lord.

He also read the concluding sentence of the will, which said—

I do hereby nominate, constitute, and appoint my wife, Alicia Race, executor of this my will and testament; feeling confident that she will do justice to my dear children, as a wife and mother.

On the other hand, Mr. O'Malley and Mr. Bovill argued against the surrender of the child; contending that her "religious convictions" ought to be respected; that her "conscience ought not to be forced;" and that the rule is to follow the religion of the father in educating orphans in our military and naval schools. The father always brought his children up as Protestants, and sent them to Protestant schools. He always attended the worship of the Church of England. Considering that his wife was a Roman Catholic, those acts showed a strong will. It was found also, that for eight months after their father's death the children attended a Protestant school and Protestant worship, and the mother went with them. That was the way she interpreted her husband's wish that she would "do justice to his children." The mother might have got the Commissioners to place her children at Roman Catholic schools, but, with her full approbation, they were placed at a Protestant school, and the girl continued there for sixteen months without any complaint from the mother. At that time, the mother came under the influence of others, who did not propose any means of educating the child, but merely desired that it should be got away from a Protestant school. She said "it went to her heart" to take the child away; but she said that the gentleman could not do anything for the boy unless she took away the girl also. The application was not made *bonâ fide* by the mother; but the object was to place the child under the care of priests, who would frustrate the father's dying wishes. Lord Campbell delivered judgment on Wednesday. Reviewing at great length the arguments on both sides, the legal authorities, and the precedents applicable to the case, he decided that Mrs. Race is the guardian of her child "for nurture," having the same parental authority that might have been exercised by the father had he survived. Sergeant Race had not constituted his wife testamentary guardian of the children with instructions to bring them up as Protestants, but, by his letter, had left their education entirely to her discretion. Lord Campbell therefore ordered the infant Alicia Race to be delivered up to her mother. Mr. O'Malley immediately applied to the Court to stay the execution of its order, on the ground that a motion had been made before Vice-Chancellor Kindersley to make the child a ward in Chancery. Lord Campbell refused to listen to this application; he said the order of the Court of Queen's Bench must be immediately executed. The child was accordingly delivered up to her mother in the court. In Vice-Chancellor Kindersley's Court, the application was ordered to stand over; Mr. Fleming undertaking on behalf of his client, Mrs. Race, that the girl should not be removed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court.

LORD ERNEST VANE TEMPEST AND HIS JEWELLERY.—In the Court of Exchequer, on Friday, Mr. Hancock, the well-known jeweller in Bond-street, sued Lord Ernest Vane Tempest, youngest son of the late

Marquis of Londonderry, and well known to the public by his tricks at Brighton, to recover 159*l.* 19s. for jewellery. The articles were sold to him between September, 1854, and May, 1855, and, seeing that he was not of age at that time, his mamma, Lady Londonderry, had put on record for him a plea of, first, "never indebted," and then "infancy." The plaintiff in his replication stated that the goods supplied were necessaries. The following passage occurred in Mr. Edwin James's speech for plaintiff:—

"The first article in the plaintiff's bill was a diamond and ruby ring, which article it had been decided was a necessary for a nobleman. The next thing was an enamelled hair-locket.

Mr. Baron Bramwell: What is that for, Mr. James?

Mr. James: It is what you put a piece of hair in when you are attached to a young lady.

Mr. Baron Bramwell: Then all that I can say is, that I have been without necessaries all my life.

Mr. James: Your lordship was never an officer in the Life Guards.

The learned counsel then went on to say, that the next articles in the bill were a pair of onyx sleeve-links, 3*l.*, and a set of gold studs, 2*l.* Was it to be said that these were extravagant or unnecessary articles? The next item was a gold latch-door key. It was a piece of pride among the officers in that regiment to have their latch-door keys made of gold, and nearly every one of them possessed one of this metal. Then there was a gold turquoise Alma locket—that was to put somebody else's hair in most likely, or to give to one of his family in remembrance of that battle. Then came an enamelled pearl chain necklace, 7*l.* 7s. That he could not wear outside his cravat, at all events. However, he had it. Then came an article which he scarcely thought could be disputed—a Russian leather dressing-roll, without the razors, although it might be said that the defendant did not require shaving. Then there was repairing his gold Geneva watch. Surely, he was entitled to a watch, even if it were only that he might know when he was going too fast. Lady Londonderry had offered 5s. in the pound for her son's debt, which had been refused. Mr. Hancock deposed that he had sent the present bill to Lady Londonderry somewhere about the middle of 1856. That was in consequence of hearing the defendant was going to the Crimea. It was after the difficulties in which Lord Ernest Vane Tempest became involved. He had had a conversation with her ladyship, in which she said she was very sorry he had given her son credit, and since that time he had not given him any further credit. Some other witnesses were called and examined to prove the delivery of the articles; but one of the assistants being in Egypt, the delivery of only 65*l.* 15s. worth of goods could be strictly proved. The jury returned a verdict for 65*l.* 15s. accordingly, but expressed their strong opinion that the plaintiff ought to have been paid the whole of his demand.

THE DOUBLE MURDER IN WALWORTH.—Some weeks since, Mrs. Martha Bacon was arrested on a charge of murdering her two children. Her explanation was, that "a man" had got into the house, killed the children, and carried off divers things. She was thought to be mad. On investigation, facts came to light casting suspicion on her husband. He was interrogated about the missing property, and he gave very conflicting answers. On Wednesday, husband and wife were brought before the Lambeth magistrate. Bacon again prevaricated. In the midst of the proceedings, his wife cut the matter short by handing up a letter, which at her request Mr. Elliott read as follows:—

Sir,—I must confess I am an innocent person, and he who committed the dreadful deed is my husband; and there was no money on the drawers. He took the little boy down stairs, put him in a chair, and there cut his throat. He then went up stairs and cut the little baby's throat. MARTHA BACON.

The letter produced a sense of horror in the court, and had a visible effect on the nerves of Bacon. Both husband and wife are remanded on a charge of murder. Mr. Elliott directed Inspector Young to write and request the authorities at Stamford to exhume the body of Bacon's mother, who, it is suspected, had been poisoned with arsenic a year ago. Further evidence has been discovered tending to show the guilt of Bacon—blood-stained garments hitherto concealed. Mrs. Bacon states that her husband attempted her life at the time he murdered his children; which would account for the marks of a knife on her throat. She now manifests the greatest horror and fear of her husband, and has begged that he may not be allowed to approach her. Bacon, it is stated, bears an ill name at Stamford, where he carried on business as an ironmonger. He was not only guilty of seduction there, but has been tried for arson, and suspected of murder. On Monday, Mrs. Bacon made a fuller confession of the guilt of her husband. She now says that it was after destroying the life of the younger child that her husband attacked her; and not only attempted to cut her throat, but inflicted several scars on it. She repeats that she got hold of him by the wrist of the right hand, in which he held the knife, with both her hands, and thus prevented him from reaching her throat. She further states that, as soon as her husband could release himself from her hold, he drew a rope from his pocket and threw it round her neck, endeavouring to prevent her making a noise, and forcing her on the bed rushed out of the room. In confirmation of her assertion on this point, it is a positive fact that, when taken to Horsemonger-lane Gaol on the Tuesday evening (the following day) the matron of that prison distinctly noticed a livid mark round the neck such as would be produced by a rope or some hard ligature tied tightly round it, and it struck her to be of so singular a character as to induce her to call the attention of the prison surgeon to it.

Literature.

RECENT VERSE.

Autumn Leaves: Poems, by JOHN CRITCHLEY PRINCE. Hyde: G. Booth.—It is a pity that there is no London publisher of this little volume: Mr. Prince has more than a local reputation; and many persons would have been glad to greet him in a new volume, who may never hear of these *Autumn Leaves*. Our own readers know that Mr. Prince has written many pleasant and touching verses:—his muse is simple and homely, with a tinge of melancholy in feeling; but also very genuine, sweet-voiced, and pure. He belongs to the "working classes," as to circumstances and occupation; and, if he has not soared so high in song as to make us forget his outer life and surroundments, as others of his class have done—for instance, Gerald Massey and Alexander Smith, (to whom we abide faithful, as a man of true poetic genius, despite *Athenæum* correspondents,)—he has yet won for himself a place in that chapter of the history of poetry which shall preserve the memories of our Bloomfields and Clares. Certainly Mr. Prince has not fewer merits than the Devonshire postman, Edward Capern, whom the public followed Mr. Landor's lead in welcoming warmly last year; and we believe our Cheshire reed-maker has not fewer friends than he, by whom his poems, suitably published, would be received with pleasure. We are sorry for the sad tone of Mr. Prince's Preface; and we earnestly hope, that, by self-reliant industry, lofty integrity, and manly energy of character, he may be able soon to write and sing again "under happier auspices," as he says. We must quote the "Dedicatory Sonnet:"—

"To whom shall I devote, with love and truth,
These Autumn Leaves, in the Autumn of my Days,
These well-intended, but imperfect lays—
But unto thee, my faithful, patient Ruth!
Thy heart received me in my noblest hour,
And in my weakest did not cast me out,
But clung to me with sympathising power,
And fenced me with affection round about.
'Mid poverty, and hunger, and despair,
We grieved and suffered, but divided not,
And still we tremble 'neath oppressive care,
But to the end we'll bear one common lot.
Preserve in memory of our troubled past,
These voices of my song—perhaps the last."

Not "the last," however, we hope,—and we see Mr. Prince announces as in preparation, "Massada, and other poems." Two or three of the best things in this book have already appeared in our columns; so we take, for brevity's sake, for extract, a simple and sweet song to "May:"—

"May! May! song-honoured May!
Whom the youthful poet has loved alway,
What has become of thy genial air,
Thy voices of music everywhere,
The blessed blue of thy kindly skies,
Thy bloom that greets us with sweet surprise,
Thy hedgerows covered with odorous snow,
Thy waters that laugh with joy as they go?
Why art thou sullen and sad to-day,
Song-honoured May!

May! May! ever welcome May!
How strangely thou lookest on earth to-day,
Cloudy and tearful, cold and wild,
Like a petulant woman, or wayward child!
Has winter been striving to keep thee back?
Have his bullying gales waylaid thy track?
Or is there a change 'mid the skies sublime?
Or a fitful pause in the flight of time?
Thy name is here, but thy presence away,
Ever welcome May!

May! May! salubrious May!
We were wont to make merry thy natal day,
But custom and feeling are altered now,
And the people are changed even more than thou;
But we used to wander in days of old,
Through fields of floral silver and gold,
Catching the apple tree's breath and bloom,
And the ancient hawthorn's heavy perfume,
While our glad hearts beat with a healthful play,
Salubrious May!

But nothing goes wrong in the land of God,
For His bounty lives in the quiet sod,
Whether clothed in the garb of frost or flower,
Or the liberal harvest's golden dower.
With a thoughtless spirit we oft complain,
But the doings of Nature are never in vain;
For Wisdom governs the humblest things,
And Love o'ershadows with guardian wings;
In God's just power there is no delay,
Oh, glorious May!"

The Legend of *St. Christopher* should have been referred to the source whence the story is taken; and the poem *Mercy* should, most certainly, have been distinctly stated to be, not merely founded on, but, in truth, a free metrical translation of one of the Parables of Herder.

The Genesis: a Poem. By EDWARD HOWARD, M.D. With an Introduction by GEORGE GILFILLAN. London: Longman and Co.—Is the following poetry?—

"Salt, sand, and clay, and plastic marly beds,
Gravel, and surface mould enriched of God
For future harvests, through the *gruinous* flood
Descend *elective*, well-informed, and form
Earth's *periosteum*, ligaments, and flesh.
While *defecated* water, clarified,
Wide circumfused envelopes all the world."

There's a good deal more like it in this book. Yet the book shows knowledge, talent, and Christian faith and feeling;—only, it does not show poetic genius. It combines "a material with a moral aim,"—and draws parallels between the days of Creation, which it describes, and the eras of human development and history. Mr. Gilfillan praises this "*plan*," specially; and next, the "sustained" style. The plan we decidedly condemn, as one impossible of interest; and the style is just tamely level from beginning to end, which perhaps is what Mr. Gilfillan meant slily to intimate by the use of the word "sustained,"—a continuous flat. The author admits that he "*crosses* the path" of Milton; sometimes, however, he *keeps* it,—and with manifest advantage from having had such a precursor. Sometimes we lose Dr. Howard altogether in a crowd of Miltonisms. If Dr. Howard had written what are known as "minor poems," of a devotional character, he might have done well, and have won praise; but, because he has ventured "an Epic in Seven Books," on one of the loftiest of subjects, which brings him into comparison with Milton, he must submit to be judged by epic standards, and with recognition of the claims and capabilities of the subject, and in the light of the poet of Paradise Lost and Regained;—and so judged, he *must* be condemned. The following passage on "Evening on earth and in heaven," will fairly represent the best manner and the highest originality of "The Genesis":—

"At twilight, when the silent winds and soft,
After a summer's day, fan the warm air,
And lull with wooing whispers into rest
The active hours; the toiling sons of men
Abandon Labour's noisy court; and choose
To saunter where the shadows dance and play,
Among the leaves of willows drooping sad,
Or sorrowing poplars silver leaved and pale,
That lay their trembling shadows on the stream
Which slowly winds along its verdant way,
Or charmed with liquid pipings of such birds
As sing the sunset, and the rising moon;
Or, noiseless as the gliding spirit of night,
Whose sable wings are dipped in evening dew,
Ascend the sheep-track round a grassy knoll,
That overlooks the holy village spire,
Sublimely graceful in its loftiness.
So in the heaven of heavens, when the notes died,
In faintest echoes, of the rapturous song,
Which told the wonders late in chaos wrought,
The sons of God their worship intermit,
And public joy; to taste in grateful change
The bliss of silence and serene repose."

Sir Edwin Gilderoy: a Ballad. By FELTHAM BURGHLEY. London: John Chapman.—Mr. Burghley has written a Ballad of eighty-five pages in length; and has prefixed an Introductory Essay of a hundred and fifty pages. The Ballad is utterly uninteresting;—imitative enough, but without a spark of the feeling of the simple grand ballad poetry of the olden time, or a trace of the genius of the great masters who have in modern times caught the spirit of the old minstrels, and have sung in their strains. The Essay is very desultory, but shows culture and good information;—it is written, however, with an impertinent familiarity with the reader.

Gethsemane; and other Poems. By T. G. HORTON. London: Judd and Glass.—Mr. Horton, known as an Independent minister, of London, has undoubtedly the gift of song; and has here exercised it on worthy themes, and in the service of the religion to which his various powers are consecrated. The volume is one to be read with pleasure, and to excite genuine respect for the author. The poem *Gethsemane* is a narrative of the Saviour's agony and betrayal by Judas. It has been well thought out, and is distinguished by the true feeling of the subject. Still, it is not a success; but a failure, where, as it seems to us, only failure is possible. The prose Introduction is more interesting than the poem itself; and it strikes one as an artistic defect, that the part of the Introduction relating to the so-called "first canto," is about twenty times as long as the "canto" itself.—The poem *Felix*—a "dramatic poem" in form—is the history of a life, from birth and infancy to manhood and death. It is a typical life-experience. Felix is attended through his career by a good angel and an evil—Zaraph and Ephtheiron,—the one directing and assisting the growth of his mind and his progress to the goal of the good and blessed, the other diverting and entangling his steps by doubt and sensual desire. The good angel triumphs; and Felix dies "in the Lord." The poem is deeply true; and mirrors the inner history of all who conquer evil, and "run so as to obtain." It is often powerful,—always thoughtful and suggestive;—altogether a greater, better effort than *Gethsemane*. Yet, its power is of the nature of eloquence, rather than of pure poesy. The worldly phase of Felix's life is, rather unfortunately, the most poetically presented; but these passages make it at least evident, that, had Mr. Horton's imagination and passion not been chastened by religious feeling, he might have poured forth rich and intoxicating music on the world-themes of love and pleasure. The human interest of the poem has the depth which reveals that the author has *lived* his poem before he *wrote* it. But the scene between the fiend and his imps is imitative, and

a blot; besides being, as we should think, wholly untrue to real spirits of evil, and reflecting only foolish and trivial conventionalities about "the devil and his angels." The scene and dialogue in Paradise, too, are unequal to the conception which glimmers through them, and read tamely. Let us add, that had not the poem possessed an inherent vitality, we should not have thought it worth while to point out these imperfections—imperfections which may be readily removed, if the author will consent to treat his work as only a rough draft, and will hereafter labour patiently to perfect it.—The "Hebrew Odes" contain the Songs of Moses, of Deborah, and of Hannah, the Lament of David, the Prayer of Habakkuk, and some twenty Psalms. It has been Mr. Horton's purpose to give these more literally, and with more truth to the form and tone of the originals, than they are given in our English version; and, especially, to avoid "the tawdry ornaments of an effeminate modern taste," so frequently substituted in metrical paraphrases, "for the severe and impressive grandeur of ancient Hebrew compositions." A good and intelligently conceived purpose; and it is executed with remarkable effectiveness in instances not a few. There were other faults of metrical paraphrases, however, to be avoided, of which the author has not always kept clear; namely, an essentially modern expression, and a dilution of the original by additional phrases. We know the difficulty to be great, particularly in finding words that will rhyme without infringing the integrity and simplicity of the grand old originals; but the irregular form of the ode permitted more to be done in this way than is here accomplished. On the other hand, several are almost word-for-word translations, and nearly perfect in expressiveness and true spirit. The *Notes* have been carefully compiled, and are interesting and useful.

We shall give an extract, as a specimen of Mr. Horton's powers, from *Felix;* but, as no extract can do justice to the religious argument of the poem, we take a descriptive passage, and not one speaking the human experience which is its chief subject-matter.

"Morn, like a ruddy bridegrooom, fresh and young,
Came o'er the mountains, clad in royal blue,
A golden scarf upon his shoulders hung,
Where jewels flashed with many a brilliant hue:
Upon his steed of mist with joy he flew,
Then halting, he dismounted, while that steed
O'er the black hills with tardy steps withdrew,
And when clear light to darkness did succeed,
The landscape all stood out with glist'ning dew.
O glorious day, bright, breezy, cheerful, warm,
I feel thy inspiration like a charm
Enliven and refresh. Hills, gardens, fields,
Teeming with all the store that summer yields
Of flowers and fruit, smile in the light serene,
And deck the mountain slopes in brown and green.
The lake emerges from a happy trance,
And joyous ripples o'er her bosom dance:
While here and there the bobbing fishes splash,
Or sportive fowls from off the margin dash
Amid the crystal spray. A pensive boat,
Moored idly in yon vacant bay, doth float.
An early sportman's gun, with rattling sound,
Startles the hills with echoes all around.
The burning sun rejoices in his might,
And makes the welkin quiver with delight:
How different from the scene of yesternight!
Then lay the lake, all silent, sleeping still,
Night's sable robe encompassing her breast;
While standing round her, many a crested hill
Watched her repose, like some great queen at rest,
By dark-mailed giants guarded: all the clouds
Paused in their course to canopy her head,
Or moved along like sailors in the shrouds,
Creeping for fear, with cautious, noiseless tread.
Thus lay the lake; and as she slept, she dreamed;
And lo! there came, she knew not whence, an eye
To gaze upon her, whose clear glory beamed
Brighter than burnished silver; half the sky,
Lit by its brilliance, sparkled in the light:
Whereat it grew more lustrous, till it spread,
From being like a glow-worm seen at night,
Or spark, or gem upon a monarch's head,
Into a splendour flooding all the scene,
And steeping in its rays rocks, fields, and trees,
And showering spangles on the lake serene
Until she stirred with wondrous sympathies,
Rippling with joy to know it was the Moon,
Heaven's maiden queen, most meekly stepping forth
To feed on her own mirrored beauty soon,
And soothe the tumours of the slumbering earth.
Ah! thus (I cried) when my dark soul is still,
And giant griefs stand round me grim and stern,
On the high summit of the gloomiest hill,
Let Faith's strong eye within my heart discern
The star of love and hope, and may it shine
With brightening radiance till my terrors cease;
And, cheered and quickened by the light divine,
My spirit wakes to holy joy and peace!"

Panthea, a Greek Tale; and other Poems. By BLANCHE SHAKSPERE DE TREPKA. London: J. Unwin.—Here is a beautifuly printed book of very fluent verse, written by a lady with a grand name, and enjoying the patronage of princes, and the friendship of people of title. Apparently, the lady is rich in sense and sentiment,—but not in poetry. We are sorry to say that the Greek Tale is unreadable; and that the "other poems" are principally complimentary verses,—*very* complimentary, and that is all. The volume may be, very pleasantly, to the author's friends, "a remembrance, and a farewell;" but it is not a book for the public.

Vernon: a Tale of the Sea. By HENRY BATE, M.R.C.S. London: A. Hall and Co.—In this considerable body of verse there is nothing to arrest attention. There is a story, which might, perhaps, have been interesting in prose; but it is far otherwise, when told in two hundred and fifty pages of smooth monotonous verse, and with the greatest verboseness ever bestowed on a story or drilled into rhythm and rhyme. *The Bridal* is only a condensed instance of the poor and unvarying conventionalism in thought, feeling, and language which is the sole distinction Mr. Bate has as an author.

Christian Devotedness and Ministerial Usefulness Exemplified. A Memoir of the Rev. David Moir, lately Superintendent of the Edinburgh City Mission, &c. By the Rev. ALEXANDER REID, Minister of St. Paul's Chapel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Edinburgh: Thomas C. Jack, Princes-street. London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

IF ever any set of men deserved to be relieved from the Income-tax, it is that unfortunate class who, by some cruel destiny, are doomed to read religious biographies. The reviewer must read them; this is bad; and then he has to utter his mind honestly on their merits; and this is worse. It looks querulous—some people may think irreligious—to complain of their number and character; but for number they are like the plagues of Egypt, and for character the greater part are infinitely below mediocrity. Have Dissenters really taken out a patent for making religious life look melancholy, and religious books insufferably tedious?

Mr. Moir was a devotedly pious man; early in life he went to Jamaica as a catechist in the service of the United Secession Church; there he laboured well and successfully until his health failed and a return to England became indispensable; here he resumed his college life, at the close of which he entered upon his pastoral career; and ultimately became Superintendent of the Edinburgh City Mission, which post he filled till his death, in 1855, at the early age of thirty-eight.

Such is the story of this good man's life—for he was eminently such—but why publish it? There are other equally good men; are the lives of all to be published? Why not give us brief memoirs in 12mo of the three thousand converted on the day of Pentecost? As usual, "several friends" expressed a "strong desire" for the publication of this "memorial of Mr. Moir's life and labours." Of course they did; "several friends" always do: we hope that they have also paid the publisher and remunerated the compiler handsomely. We heartily wish there was a committee with unlimited power appointed by the Crown to restrain the strongly-expressed wishes of friends on biographical occasions within the boundaries of reason and common sense. We would willingly pay our Income-tax if religious biographies were exterminated, except in the case of notable men whose lives have a lesson in them for all times.

Memoir of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Leifchild. By Dr. LEIFCHILD. London: Ward and Co., Paternoster-row.

THIS memorial of a devoted wife has already reached a second edition, a circumstance which exempts us from the necessity of criticism. In fact, works of this class are not fit subjects for criticism: they are intended for and adapted to the inner circle of private friendship and love; the outer world can scarcely appreciate the minutiæ of details, which to that inner circle of immediate and of loving friends, constitute one of the great charms of these small religious biographies, the majority of which possess no possible interest, and contain no instruction for the general public.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Post Magazine Almanack. W. Paleman.
Hand-book for the Oratorios. No. 6, Sampson. Cocks and Co.
The Messiah. J. A. Novello.
Mozart's Requiem Mass. Ibid.
The Monthly Review. J. Mitchell.
Commercial Courts. M'Glashan and Gill.
The Eclectic Review. Ward and Co.
The Irish Quarterly Review. W. B. Kelly.
A Review of the Divorce Bill of 1856. J. W. Parker and Son.
The Gales of the East. Ward and Lock.
The Laws of Health. J. Hogg.
The Journal of Psychological Medicine. J. Churchill.
Shadows. D. Bogue.
Bradshaw's Hand-book. W. J. Adams.
The Song of Drop o' Wather. Routledge and Co.
Third Annual Report of the Boys' Refuge. Mead and Powell.

Gleanings.

At New York a movement is on foot to estab lish a hospital for inebriates.

The trials of life are the tests which ascertain how much gold there is in us.

A professional beggar, named Page, died in Norwich last week, and no less a sum than 300*l.* was discovered in his lodgings by the police.

In a French translation of Shakespeare, the passage, "Frailty, thy name is woman!" is translated "Mademoiselle Frailty is the name of the lady!"

An Emeralder, in writing his life, says, "He ran away early from his father, because he discovered he was only his uncle."

The *Voice of Israel*, a Jewish paper lately started in San Francisco, says there are between thirty and forty thousand Hebrews in the State of California.

American fashions are curious. The latest is complimentary to John Bull. No dinner is now considered perfect without a saddle or a leg of English mutton, brought by the last steamer!

Mr. Gough is greatly recovered, and intends visiting Chicago and holding a few meetings there, in order to test his powers. He is sanguine of being able to visit Europe in the summer.

A few days ago, a poor Irishman, who applied for a licence to sell ardent spirits, being questioned by the Board of Excise as to his moral fitness for the trust, replied, "Ah, sure, it is not much of a character that a man needs to sell rum!"

The following notice appeared on the west side of a country meeting house:—"Any person sticking bills against this church will be prosecuted according to law or any other nuisance."—*Mining Register* (Pottsville, U.S.)

Adversities are blessings in disguise. We know a man who has lived six months on a sprained ankle. He belongs to half a dozen societies, and draws four dollars a week from each. He once spent a whole summer at Saratoga on a sore throat.—*American Paper.*

Society is full of bankrupt heroes. It is better to flee from the devil than to meet him ill-armoured—to challenge a moral situation to which you are unequal. Never start as a hero with insufficent capital—it is the most harassing and dangerous of enterprises.—*Longfellow.*

A portrait of Madlle. Rosa Bonheur, the popular artist, painted by E. Dubufe, is on view at Messrs. Leggatt's, Cornhill, previous to its being placed in the hands of Mr. Cousins for the purpose of being engraved. The picture has been bought for 600 guineas by a wealthy banker and a liberal patron of art.

"The Russian ambassador, M. de Kourakin, visiting the prison of St. Lazare, had his snuff-box in his hand at the moment that he entered that portion of the prison in which women were confined for theft. One of the women, seeing it, fell into fits. After she had been brought round, she was questioned as to what had had such an effect upon her. 'It is so frightful,' she said, 'to see a snuff-box of gold and not to be able to take it.' The Prince said, smiling, 'It is impossible to alter the vocation of some people; this one has the further fault of an exceeding sincerity.'"—*Memoirs by Charles Maurice, in Bentley's Miscellany.*

A French paper reports the Prince Imperial to be "lusty as a young eagle," but "far from prepossessing in appearance." "The mouth is gross and altogether uncomely; the cheek bones are long and prominent; the complexion is swarthy. Scarcely nine months old, he rolls himself over and over after any object which attracts him, with surprising agility, and shows all the germs of future despotism in his determined manner of exercising his free will on all matters within his domain. The fondness of the Imperial parents is absolutely intense, and the genuine amiability of both is never more apparent than when the child is in their presence."

"Cordelia," in the *Times*, very properly denounces the present fashion of feminine attire. "The globose form stretched into longitude" of the modern hooped petticoat never can approve itself to the delicate eye of good taste. Nor is it encouraged by royalty! "Happily for England and the cause of pure classic taste, and all upon which it rests, profuse extravagance and frivolous excess in dress find no shelter in the example of Royalty, as was the case in the age of Louis XV. Amid the necessary transitions of style and various modes of dress, simplicity and propriety of taste are cherished in the circle of British Royalty."

To the announcements of forthcoming works contained in our last impression, we (*Athenæum*) must add a few others. Messrs. Smith, Elder and Co. have in the press, "The Antiquities of Kertch," by Dr. Macpherson,—"Friends of Bohemia," a satirical novel, by Mr. Edward Whitty,—"The Eve of St. Mark," a romance by Mr. Doubleday,—and a posthumous novel, by Currer Bell. The same publishers have announced, "The Life of Charlotte Brontë," by Mrs. Gaskell. Messrs. Low and Co. have a full list of forthcoming American books. We note, the first and the tenth volumes of the "Life and Works of John Adams, Second President of the United States," completing the work, —"Twenty Months on the Andes," by Isaac F. Holton,—"Autumnal Leaves," by L. Maria Child, —Dr. Draper's "Physiology,"—Alger's "Eastern Poetry,"—the first and third volumes of the Government edition of the "Japan Expedition," 4to, plates —the first volume of Washington Irving's "Illustrated Library" edition of the "Life of Washington,"—Mr. Olmsted's new volume of United States travel, "Texas, or Camp and Saddle Life,"—an entire new book, "On Copper-Mining," by Piggott,—and a new edition of Brady's "Kedge Anchor." Messrs. Trübner and Co. have the following works in preparation: "A Biography of Handel, from materials never used before," by Victor Schölcher,—"The Geology of North America," by Jules Marcou,—"The Aboriginal Languages of Central America," by E. G. Squier, —"The Indigenous Races of the Earth; or, New Chapters of Ethnological Inquiry, including Monographs on special departments of Philology, Iconography, Cranioscopy, Palæontology, Pathology, Archæology, Comparative Geography, and Natural History," by Alfred Maury, Francis Pulszky, and Dr. J. A. Meigs, edited by Dr. J. C. Nott and Mr. G. R. Gliddon,—Patterson's (Founder of the Bank of England) "Memoir on Central America," edited by S. Banister,—Trübner's "Bibliotheca Glottica: Part I. being a Bibliography of American Aboriginal Linguistics," compiled and arranged by Hermann E. Ludewig, with additions by N. Trübner,—"Climatology of the United States, and of the Temperate

Latitudes of the North American Continent," by Mr. Blodget,—and "A Critical Dictionary of English Literature, and British and American Authors, living and deceased, from the Earliest Accounts to the Middle of the Nineteenth Century," by S. A. Allibono.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 14, at West Bromwich, the wife of SAMUEL BOWEN, Esq., of a son.

Jan. 22, the wife of the Rev. DANIEL MOORE, of Peckham, of a daughter.

Jan. 25, at 21, Wilton-crescent, the wife of HENRY LOWTHER, Esq., M.P., of a son.

Jan. 27, at Sydenham, the wife of GEORGE GROVE, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Sept. 20, at the residence of Mr. W. Piggott, Emerald-hill, Melbourne, by the Rev. A. Sharp, WALROND, youngest son of Captain H. H. DARE, of Seaton, Devon, to FANNY ELIZABETH, second daughter of Mr. W. PIGGOTT, late of Great Eversden, Cambridgeshire.

Jan. 20, at St. Mark's, Kennington, by the Rev. Edward Phillips, M.A., of Surbiton, cousin of the bridegroom, JOHN, eldest son of JOHN DEANE, Esq., of London-bridge and Tulse-hill, to SOPHIA JANE, youngest daughter of the late JOHN BUTT, Esq., solicitor, of Westminster, and stepdaughter of William Lord, Esq., of the Hawthorns, Clapham.

Jan. 21, at St. Pancras New Church, by the Rev. Sanford Dale, FRANCIS BOYNTON, Esq., of Malta, to ELIZABETH ANN, eldest daughter of Mr. JOHN BUDDEN, of St. James's-terrace, Camden-town.

Jan. 21, at the Lutheran Church of the Redemption, in Paris, CHARLES, third son of his Excellency the Chevalier BUNSEN, and Secretary of Legation to the Prussian Embassy at Turin, to MARY ISABELLA, only daughter of THOMAS WADDINGTON, Esq., of St. Leger du Bourg Denis, Seine Inférieure.

Jan. 22, in Providence Chapel, Broadstairs, by the Rev. B. C. Etheridge, of Ramsgate, the Rev. JOHN BROOK, minister of the above place, to ELIZA MACKIE, of Broadstairs.

DEATHS.

Jan. 14, at Plymouth, ANN, widow of the late Mr. BENJAMIN NICHOLSON, and mother of the late Rev. SAMUEL NICHOLSON, at the advanced age of eighty-six.

Jan. 16, at Manchester, Mr. SWALLOW, late of Maidenhead, Berks, aged sixty-one.

Jan. 18, at 3, Hailes-street, Edinburgh, MARY, fourth daughter of Mr. ROBERT MILLER, aged nine.

Jan. 21, Sir ROBERT BARLOW, Bart., of the Bengal Civil Service, fourth son of the late Sir GEORGE HILARO BARLOW, Bart., G.C.B., aged fifty-nine.

Jan. 22, at Brighton, Mr. ARTHUR HOLBORN, of 39, Mincing-lane, and Clarendon-villas, Notting-hill, aged thirty.

Jan. 22, at Islington, ALEXANDRINA VICTORIA, the wife of EDWARD BATEMAN, Esq., aged twenty-eight.

Jan. 23, at Takeley, Essex, after upwards of five years' painful affliction, borne with patient resignation, and nearly forty years the pastor of the Independent Church of the same place, the Rev. JOHN HANSOM, aged seventy-four.

Jan. 24, ELIZABETH, the wife of Mr. DAVID HINE, Albany-road, Camberwell, aged seventy-three, after a union of fifty-one years.

Jan. 24, at Hull, after a protracted illness, much esteemed, CHARLES BAMFORD, Esq., jun., merchant, aged forty-two.

Jan. 24, at Whitehill, Chester-le-street, JOHN COOKSON, Esq., Deputy-Lieutenant and J.P. for the county of Durham, in his eighty-fourth year.

Jan. 25, at Ingress Lodge, Folkstone, Kent, MARY, relict of the late WILLIAM PLEDGE, after an illness of eighteen months, borne with exemplary Christian fortitude, in her eighty-seventh year.

Jan. 25, Mr. THOMAS VICKRESS, of 45, Aldersgate-street, and Blackheath, aged fifty-four, much beloved and regretted by all who knew him.

Jan. 25, in the Poultry, MARIA, the wife of Mr. EUGENIUS FENNING, aged seventy-five, much beloved and respected.

Jan. 26, at Hammersmith, MARIANNE, the wife of LEIGH HUNT in her sixty-ninth year.

Jan. 27, at his residence, 9, Park-crescent, the Hon. Baron ALDERSON, in his seventieth year.

Money Market, and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

There have been no material variations in the Stock Market, which is in a languid state. Both on Monday and to-day there was a decline of ⅛. The downward tendency is attributable to the decline at Paris, a more active demand for money, unfavourable news from China, and the unsatisfactory appearance of the bullion movement. Operators for the rise are closing the accounts, being discouraged by the tightness of the money market, which is believed to be sensibly promoted by the arrangements for shipping silver to the East. The current rate for short loans on Government Securities consequently advanced to 6 to 6½ per cent.; and some loans were obtained at the Bank of England at its fixed charge of 6½ per cent. In the discount market the demand was less active than in the Stock Exchange, but the rates are fully maintained The settlement of the fortnightly account in shares and foreign stocks, which will be proceeded with tomorrow and the two following days, will occasion some demand for Money in the Stock Exchange.

In addition to the 94,000*l.* in gold taken from the Bank yesterday, 20,000*l.* is known to have been withdrawn to-day, to pay for silver on the Continent. It is computed that the shipments by the Indus on the 4th February will amount to 600,000*l.* or 700,000*l.*, chiefly for India.

The private telegraphic advices from China state, that the deficiency in the shipments of tea this season amounted already, at date, to 12,000,000lb.

Foreign Stocks continue inactive. A very moderate business is reported in Railway Shares, and the prices realised have generally shown a slight decline. The Foreign and Colonial continue very depressed. Mines, Banks, and Miscellaneous Shares have been dealt in to a moderate extent, at about former quotations.

The trade reports for the past week show a further increase of activity, except at Manchester, where business opened heavily, a decline in prices being arrested only by the firmness of the Liverpool cotton-market. At Birmingham there is an advancing tendency in iron, owing to the American and also the continental demand. In the general trades of the place there has been no particular alteration, but in some cases employment is checked by the uninterrupted advance in the prices of raw material. The Chamber of Commerce have resolved to aid the movement for procuring a reform of the bankruptcy laws. The Kidderminster Bank, which stopped on the 13th ult., shows debts amounting to 45,872*l.* against assets estimated at 34,700*l.*, and a dividend of 12s. 6d. is expected. At Nottingham there has been general activity, and, notwithstanding the advance in prices, the stocks of hosiery are lower than ever. In the woollen districts there is full employment, and the Irish linen-markets are without change.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian Colonies during the past week comprised five vessels—two to Port Phillip, one to Adelaide, one to Swan River, and one to Launceston—with an aggregate capacity of 2,565 tons. The rates of freight exhibit scarcely any alteration.

In the general business of the port of London during the past week there has been little change. The number of ships reported inward was 154, being 17 less than in the previous week. These included 10 with cargoes of sugar, 30 with cargoes of corn, flour, rice, &c., and 4 with cargoes of tea, amounting in all to 33,105 packages, 15,511 chests of which were brought by the American ship King Fisher. The number of vessels cleared outward was 85, including 10 in ballast, showing a decrease of 1.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Consols	93⅛ ¼	93⅛ ¼	93⅛ ¼	93¼ ⅜	93⅛ ¼	93⅛
Consols for Account	93⅜ ⅝	93⅜	93⅜ ½	93⅜ ½	93¼ ⅜	93⅛ ¼
3 per Cent. Red.	93⅞ 4	94⅛	93⅞ 4	94⅛	94 ⅛	94 3⅞
New 3 per Cent. Annuities	94⅛	94⅛ ¼	94⅛ ¼	94⅛ ¼	94⅛ 4	94⅛ 3⅞
India Stock	220	220	220	—	—	219
Bank Stock	217½	216	217½	216	—	217½
Exchequer-bills	2 pm	1 pm	—	2 pm	2 pm	—
India Bonds	—	2 pm	1 dis	—	—	2 dis
Long Annuities	18 1-16	—	18	—	2⅞	—

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette*.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 17th day of Jan., 1857.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£23,976,935	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	3,459,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	9,501,935
		Silver Bullion	—
	£23,976,935		£23,976,935

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity)	£11,550,467
Rest	3,379,903	Other Securities	16,586,201
Public Deposits	3,397,114	Notes	4,513,900
Other Deposits	11,075,931	Gold and Silver Coin	608,474
Seven Day and other Bills	853,094		
	£33,259,042		£33,259,042

Jan. 22, 1857. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, January 23, 1857:

BANKRUPTS.

DEEKS, G., Pembridge-villas, Westbourne-grove, auctioneer, Feb. 3, March 3; solicitor, Mr. Davis, Arundel-street, Strand.

CANTRILL, T., Rivers-terrace, York-road, King's-cross, Feb. 6, March 3; solicitors, Messrs. Wright and Bonner, London-street, Fenchurch-street.

WHITE, W., Cushion-court, Old Broad-street, stock broker, Feb. 3, March 3; solicitors, Messrs. Linklaters and Hackwood, Sise-lane, Bucklersbury.

WALTERS, J., Northampton, hatter, Feb. 6, March 6; solicitors, Messrs. Reed and Co., Friday-street; and Mr. Jeffery, Northampton.

DICKSON, J., Wellington, Shropshire, builder, Feb. 3, March 3; solicitors, Messrs. King and George, King-street, Cheapside.

BALL, G., New Lenton, Nottinghamshire, plumber, Feb. 10, March 3; solicitors, Mr. Coope, Nottingham; and Messrs. Harrison and Wood, Birmingham.

MORLEY, J., Nottingham, and Sneinton, Nottinghamshire, joiner, Feb. 10, March 3; solicitor, Mr. Coope, Nottingham.

TOWAN, S., Plymouth, currier, Feb. 2, March 2; solicitor, Mr. Elworthy, Plymouth.

DICKINSON, W. H., Sheffield, joiners' tool manufacturer, Feb. 7, March 21; solicitor, Mr. Broadbent, Sheffield.

LADD, J., Liverpool, contractor, Feb. 5, March 5; solicitor, Mr. Pemberton, Liverpool.

JOBBS, H. F., Manchester, merchant, Feb. 12, March 5; solicitor, Mr. Stead, Manchester.

SCHOFIELD, J., Ashton-under-Lyne, tailor, Feb. 3, March 3; solicitors, Messrs. Brooks and Marshall, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Tuesday, January 27, 1857.

BANKRUPTS.

LOW, J., Broad-street-buildings, City, commission merchant, Feb. 6, March 10; solicitors, Messrs. King and George, King-street, Cheapside.

LOW, M., Broad-street-buildings, City, merchant, Feb. 6, March 10; solicitors, Messrs. King and George, King-street, Cheapside.

WHITE, W., New Crane Mill, Shadwell, miller, Feb. 6, March 10; solicitors, Messrs. Marten and Co., Mincing-lane, City.

ATKINSON, J., Queen's-gardens and Westbourne-grove, Bayswater, builder, Feb. 11, March 10; solicitors, Messrs. Sidney and Co., Barnard's-inn, Holborn.

OCHSE, J., Basinghall-street, City, dealer in French china, Feb. 6, March 13; solicitors, Messrs. Solomon, Finsbury-place.

COOPER, J. B., and COOPER, H. B., Bentley-place, Kingsland-road, pawnbrokers, Feb. 7, March 13; solicitor, Mr. Foord, Pinner's-hall, Old Broad-street.

PHILLIPS, A., Cambridge, licensed victualler, Feb. 5, March 5; solicitor, Mr. Laurence, Cork-street, Burlington-gardens.

COOK, T., Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex, bootmaker, Feb. 5, March 5; solicitor, Mr. Jones, Colchester.

MARTIN, J., and MARKWICK, E., Brighton, surveyors, Feb. 6, March 16; solicitors, Mr. May, Russell-square; and Mr. Rede, Brighton.

LANE, T., New-road, Hammersmith, japanner, Feb. 7 and 26; solicitor, Mr. James, Birmingham.

WOOTTON, J., Leicester, builder, Feb. 10, March 3; solicitors, Messrs. Stone and Paget, Leicester; and Mr. James, Birmingham.

DAVIS, R., Cardiff, Glamorganshire, ship broker, Feb. 9, March 10; solicitors, Messrs. Bevan and Girling, Bristol.

BANKS, F. L., and DAWSON, R., Sheffield, common brewers, Feb. 7, March 21; solicitor, Mr. Patteson, Sheffield.

VON DADELSZEN, E., Liverpool, metal broker, Feb. 11, March 9; solicitor, Mr. Dodge, Liverpool.

GLADSTONE, J., jun., Liverpool, ship and anchor smith, Feb. 6, March 5; solicitors, Messrs. Francis and Almond, Liverpool.

RILEY, W., Manchester, calico printer, Feb. 9, March 9; solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

CARR, W. R., and SCOTT, H. F., Wallsend, Northumberland, iron manufacturers, Feb. 16, March 18; solicitors, Messrs. Chater, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

LAIDLER, T., Jarrow, Durham, and Denton, Northumberland, coke burner, Feb. 16, March 18; solicitors, Messrs. Chater, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 26.

The supply of English wheat was very short this morning, but in such inferior condition that most of it was left unsold, although offered at much lower rates; finest samples went off slowly, and at fully 2s to 3s per quarter under last Monday's prices. With foreign we were well supplied from the United States, and very little progress could be made with sales although offered at a reduction of 2s per quarter. Norfolk flour may be bought at 40s per sack; and finest American barrels at 33s to 34s; but the demand was very slow. In beans and peas little doing, and beans 2s per quarter cheaper. Barley dull, and 1s to 2s per quarter lower for all but the best samples of malting. We had a small arrival of oats, but unless for fine fresh heavy samples the demand was inactive, and prices 6d per quarter lower. Linseed and cakes firm, at full prices. Red cloverseed in good demand at our quotations, but in white little doing.

BRITISH.	s.	s.	FOREIGN.	s.	s.
Wheat—			Wheat		
Essex and Kent, Red	56 to	68	Dantzig	72 to	86
Ditto White	58	74	Konigsberg, Red	58	70
Linc., Norfolk, and Yorkshire Red	—	—	Pomeranian, Red	50	74
Scotch	56	64	Rostock	50	74
Rye	38	40	Danish and Holstein	48	60
Barley, malting	46	48	East Friesland	50	52
Distilling	38	40	Petersburg	52	64
Malt (pale)	74	76	Riga and Archangel	—	—
Beans, Mazagan	36	44	Polish Odessa	54	56
Ticks	—	—	Marianopoli	60	64
Harrow	—	—	Taganrog	—	—
Pigeon	—	—	Egyptian	46	48
Peas, White	42	44	American (U.S.)	62	70
Grey	38	40	Barley, Pomeranian	36	40
Maple	38	40	Konigsberg	—	—
Boilers	42	44	Danish	36	42
Tares (English new)	38	40	East Friesland	26	30
Foreign	36	38	Egyptian	24	28
Oats (English feed)	23	25	Odessa	24	28
Flour, town made, per Sack of 280 lbs.	54	56	Beans—		
Linseed, English	—	—	Horse	34	36
Baltic	54	56	Pigeon	38	40
Black Sea	60	64	Egyptian	34	36
Hempseed	40	42	Peas, White	42	44
Canaryseed	68	74	Oats—		
Cloverseed, per cwt. of 112lbs. English	50	74	Dutch	19	26
German	50	66	Jahde	19	26
French	56	66	Danish	17	23
American	56	70	Danish, Yellow feed	22	27
Linseed Cakes, 15*l* 10s to 16*l* 0s			Swedish	24	25
Rape Cake, 6*l* 10s to 7*l* 0s per ton			Petersburg	23	26
Rapeseed, 40*l* 0s to 42*l* 0s per last			Flour, per bar. of 196lbs.		
			New York	26	34
			Spanish, per sack	56	60
			Carrawayseed	36	40

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 26.—We continue to have great buoyancy in the linseed market. Fine Calcutta has realised 66s 6d; and Bombay, 67s to 68s per quarter. A similar advance has taken place in the value for arrival, 67s having been offered for Taganrog; 1s more is demanded for Odessa and Berdianski. For shipment at the northern Russian ports during the summer and autumn months, the rates ruling preclude business; 57s to 58s is asked for Petersburg moorshank, f. o. b. Notwithstanding the advances prices which are paid on the east coast, our market for linseed cakes is inactive, without alteration in price. Rape and oilseeds meet a brisk sale at improving prices. Sound Calcutta rape brings 64s to 64s 6d, either on the spot or for arrival; red or yellow Bombay, 65s to 66s; white sesame, 63s; Madras gingelly and Calcutta teelseed, 60s to 61s; poppy, 62s to 63s; Niger, 47s to 48s per quarter. The shipments of these seeds to this country have much fallen off, being from May to December only 70,000 quarters of rapeseed in 1856, against 230,000 quarters in 1855.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9d to 9½d; of household ditto, 7½d to 8½d per 4lbs loaf.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Jan. 26.

The show of foreign stock here to-day was limited as to number, and in very middling condition. For the time of year, the arrivals of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts, as well as from Scotland, were moderately good, and of full average weight. All breeds met a slow inquiry at last Monday's decline in the quotations the top figure for Scots being 5s per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received about 2,000 Scots and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 400 of various breeds; from Scotand, 500 Scots; and from Ireland, 150 oxen. We were again very scantily supplied with sheep; but their quality was extremely good. All breeds were in active request at very full prices, the primest old Downs being worth 5s 6d per 8lbs. Pigs were in moderate supply and fair request, at last week's prices.

Per 8lbs to sink the offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4 to	3 6	Pr. coarse woolled	5 0 to	5 2
Second quality	3 8	4 0	Prime Southdown	5 4	5 6
Prime large oxen	4 2	4 8	Lge. coarse calves	4 4	5 6
Prime Scots, &c.	4 10	5 0	Prime small	5 8	6 0
Coarse inf. sheep	4 0	4 4	Large hogs	3 8	4 4
Second quality	4 6	4 10	Neat sm. porkers	4 6	5 2

Suckling calves, 22s to 30s; Quarter-old store-pigs, 22s to 28s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Jan. 26.

These markets are moderately supplied with each kind of meat, in which a steady business is doing, at our quotations.

Per 8lbs by the carcase.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	3 0 to	3 4	Inf. mutton	3 6 to	3 10
Middling ditto	3 6	3 10	Middling ditto	4 0	4 4
Prime large do	4 0	4 2	Prime ditto	4 6	4 10
Do. small do	4 4	4 6	Veal	4 0	5 4
Large pork	3 8	4 4	Small pork	4 8	5 4

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 26.—We have passed another week without amendment in the demand for Irish butter. Since our last nothing of importance has been sold; prices have further declined for the best kinds 1s to 2s; for other descriptions from 2s to 4s, as in quality. Foreign attracted the chief attention, and met ready buyers at prices graduating from about 90s to 124s per cwt. Bacon was in slow demand. The dealings, landed and on board, were on a limited scale, and previous rates not well supported. Of hams and lard nothing new to report.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &C.

	s.	s.		s.	s.
Friesland, per cwt.	116 to	124	Cheshire, per cwt	64 to	74
Kiel	116	124	Chedder	74	84
Dorset	116	120	Double Gloucester	60	70
Carlow	110	114	Single ditto	—	—
Waterford	—	—	York Hams	90	112
Cork (new)	108	116	Westmoreland ditto	104	110
Limerick	108	110	Irish ditto	96	100
Sligo	104	120	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	70	76
Fresh, per dozen	14	16	Irish (green)	64	68

PRODUCE MARKET, MINCING-LANE, Jan. 27.

SUGAR.—This market opened with great activity to-day; buyers have shown great confidence, and a very large and general business has been done at an advance of 6d to 1s upon the closing prices of Friday last. 600 hhds of West India sold, including the public sale of Demerara, which sold at 51s to 56s. 3,500 bags Mauritius were offered in public sale, and sold at 45s to 53s 6d. 9,000 bags of Bengal also sold, Benares at 52s to 55s

6,300 bags of Madras sold, grocery at 53s 6d to 55s 6d; and 6,000 mats of Madagascar, at 49s 6d to 52s. In addition to these large public sales, a large business has been done by private contract, both in parcels to arrive and on the spot. The refined market is firm, and full prices have been paid; lumps, 62s to 64s.

COFFEE.—500 bags of good native Ceylon were offered in public sale, and a part sold at 56s 6d to 57s, which were full prices, to a shade advance.

TEA.—The bulk of the public sales was bought in at advanced prices; the portion sold brought very high prices. The private contract market was less excited than yesterday, yet prices have been supported. Common congou sold at 1s 1¼d.

COCOA.—230 bags of Grenada, offered by auction, partly sold at 69s to 71s.

RICE.—The large public sales, consisting of 22,000 bags of various sorts, went off heavily, and the greater portion of the sound was bought in to support prices.

RUM.—The market is rather dull, but prices are unaltered. The reduction of 4d per gallon on British spirits has had rather a depressing influence on this article.

SALTPETRE.—320 bags of Bengal, offered by auction, were bought in, refraction 31½ to 27, at 41s to 42s. 700 bags of Bombay sold, refraction 30½ to 31½, at 34s.

IRON remains quoted at 73s. 6d. to 74s.

COTTON.—We are without transactions to report to-day.

OIL.—Linseed is quoted 40s.

TALLOW remains at 62s. on the spot and for March delivery.

In other articles no material alteration, but markets generally have a firm appearance.

COVENT-GARDEN, Saturday, Jan. 24.—French salading continues to be furnished; it consists of endive, lettuces, and barbe du capucin. Supplies of good Cornish broccoli have also been well kept up. Forced vegetables comprise beans, seakale, asparagus, and rhubarb. Cucumbers may also be obtained. Pineapples and hothouse grapes may still be had at last week's quotations. Pears are dear. Apples also realise high prices. Kent cobs fetch 130s per 100lbs; Barcelona nuts, 20s per bushel; new Spanish and Brazils, 18s ditto; and chestnuts from 14s to 24s per bushel. Oranges are abundant. Portugal onions fetch from 2s to 3s per dozen. Potatoes have altered little since our last report. Cut flowers consist of orchids, Chinese primulas, cinerarias, gardenias, violets, camellias, mignonette, heaths, and roses.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Jan. 26.—The supplies of potatoes are seasonably good. Prime samples move off steadily, at our quotations; but most other kinds are dull. Last week's imports were 174 bags from Rotterdam, 162 ditto from Schiedam, 211 tons from Londonderry, and 40 tons from Belfast. York regents, 90s to 130s; Kent and Essex ditto, 100s to 130s; Lincolns, 80s to 105s; Scotch, 100s to 130s; ditto reds, 80s to 95s; Irish whites, 70s to 75s; Germans, 55s to 75s per ton.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 26.—The trade during the past week has continued steady, with a good inquiry for fine samples. Prices on the whole very firm.

WOOL, CITY, Monday, Jan. 26.—An unusually small supply of English wool is now on sale. For all kinds we have numerous inquiries, but as most of the holders refuse to sell except at further advanced rates, the business doing is very moderate. The prospect of our market may be considered favourable, both as to demand and value. The accounts from the various foreign wool markets report continued firmness, with an active demand.

TALLOW, Monday, Jan. 26.—Our market is steady to-day. P.Y.C. on the spot, 69s, with a limited supply in the market. Rough fat is 3s 4d per 8lbs. Town tallow, 60s nett cash.

PARTICULARS.

	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.
	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.
Stock	43464	36700	36119	21432	12139
Price of Yellow Candle	44s 9d to 0s 0d	63s 0d to 0s 0d	56s 9d to 0s 0d	58s 6d to 0s 0d	61s 9d to 62s 0d
Delivery last Week	2338	1927	2108	817	1839
Ditto from the 1st of June	70782	71930	55008	81509	83267
Arrived last Week	2254	379	3421	276	337
Ditto from the 1st of June	73868	88315	58127	56399	78426
Price of Town Tallow	46s 6d	64s 9d	58s 9d	56s 6d	62s 6d

OILS, Monday, Jan. 26.—Linseed oil on the spot has advanced to 40s, with a fair demand. Olive moves off steadily, at our quotations. Rape is dull, and rather cheaper, present rates being 51s to 54s per cwt. Palm is quiet, at 43s to 47s; cocoanut, 49s to 51s 6d; lard oil, 74s to 75s; ground nut, 49s 6d to 50s. Other oils, including turpentine, are dull.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—We have had a dull inquiry for all kinds of flax, at barely stationary prices. In hemp very little is doing. Petersburg clean, 36*l* 10s to 37*l*; and Riga Rhine, 37*l* to 37*l* 10s per ton. Jute and coir goods support former terms, with a fair inquiry.

METALS, LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 24.—Scotch pig iron is quoted at 73s 6d cash. Manufactured parcels are steady. Rails, 8*l* 5s to 8*l* 7s 6d; sheets, single, 10*l* 12s 6d to 10*l* 15s; hoops, 10*l* 7s 6d to 10*l* 10s; nail rods, 9*l*. Copper has advanced 1d per lb. Tin continues firm; banca, 145s; straits, 144s. Tin plates move off freely, at very full prices. Lead is firm; English pig, 21*l* 15s to 22*l*; sheet, 23*l* 5s to 23*l* 10s; and Spanish pig, 22*l* 5s to 22*l* 10s per ton.

TIMBER, LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 24.—The wood trade is without animation, and the stocks on hand are in excess of the wants of the trade. The transactions have been chiefly confined to fine qualities, at full quotations.

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, Jan. 24.

Market Hides,	56 to 64lbs.	0	4½ to 0	5	per lb
Ditto	64 72 lbs.	0	5 0	5½	"
Ditto	72 80 lbs.	0	5½ 0	5½	"
Ditto	80 88 lbs.	0	5½ 0	6	"
Ditto	88 96 lbs.	0	6 0	6½	"
Ditto	96 104 lbs.	0	6½ 0	6½	"
Horse Hides		9	0 10	0	each
Calf Skins, light		4	0 5	0	"
Ditto full		9	0 0	0	"
Polled Sheep		10	0 12	0	"
Kents and Half Breds		7	6 9	0	"
Downs		5	9 6	8	"
Lambs		0	0 0	0	"
Shearlings		0	0 0	0	"

COALS, Monday.—A very heavy market, at last Friday's rates. Stewart's, 18s 9d—Hetton's, 18s 6d—Hartlepool, 18s—South Hartlepool, 17s 6d—Hartley's, 15s—Belmont, 16s 6d—Bell's Primrose, 14s—Tanfield, 14s 6d—Gosforth, 16s 3d—Eden Main, 17s 6d. Fresh arrivals, 119; left from last day 24.

HAY.—SMITHFIELD, Jan. 27.—A large supply, and trade heavy. Prime meadow hay, 63s to 66s; superior ditto, 70s to 78s; inferior ditto, 50s to 55s; rowen, 50s to 60s; clover, 70s to 100s; straw, 24s to 28s.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Jan. 27.—The market closed quietly, but very steadily, and prices of all descriptions of Americans are ⅛d per lb dearer, and others without change. The sales are 5,000 bales—500 for export—comprising 150 Pernams and Maranhams, at 7⅞d to 8⅛d; 1,000 Surat, at 5d to 6d; and 120 Sea Island, chiefly at 20d per lb. The imports since Thursday were 19,000 bales.

Advertisements.

OLDRIDGE'S BALM of COLUMBIA.—THE LOSS of HAIR.—One of the most annoying proofs of the inroads of ruthless time has been most successfully supplied by OLDRIDGE'S BALM of COLUMBIA, which has been no less remarkable than important to thousands who have experienced its powerful effects in encouraging or reproducing a fine growth of hair. Oldridge's Balm produces a beautiful curl, frees the hair from scurf, and the first application stops the falling off Established forty years.

3s. 6d., 6s., and 11s. per bottle. Sold Wholesale and Retail by the proprietors, 13, Wellington-street North, Strand.

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR is far superior to Eau de Cologne for all Toilet and Sanitary Purposes. Price 1s., 2s. 6d., and 9s.—39, Gerard-street, Soho, London.

HAIR DYE.—BATCHELOR'S INSTANTANEOUS COLUMBIAN, in the New York original packets, at B. HOVENDEN'S Warehouses, 57 and 58, Crown-street, Finsbury-square, and (late Churcher's) 5, Great Marlborough-street. Price 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s., black or brown. N.B. The spurious imitations wash out.

WHITE and SOFT HANDS all through the WINTER.—The LONDON SOAP and CANDLE COMPANY, 76, NEW BOND-STREET, have prepared a NEW WINTER SKIN SOAP, which, by its continued use, will produce the softest of Hands, and the whitest of Skin, even in the coldes weather, and hardest water; it is agreeably perfumed, and beautifully soft in use. Sold in Bars, at 1s. per pound. Sole depôt, the best and cheapest house in London for Wax, Sperm, Composite, and every kind of Candle, Soap, Oil, &c. Priced lists sent on application.

TEETH.—Invention.—Mr. EDWARD A. JONES, Inventor and Manufacturer of the IMPROVED TEETH and SOFT GUM, which are fixed permanently; they do not change colour, and never wear out. A complete set, from 5*l.*; per tooth, 5s.—129, Strand, next Waterloo-bridge, and 55, Connaught-terrace, Hyde-park.

TEETH!—IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MESSRS. GABRIEL, the old-established Dentists, have the honour to inform their Patients and the Public that they have REMOVED to their NEW PREMISES, situate 33, Ludgate-hill, where they continue to supply, as for many years past, the celebrated SILICIOUS ENAMELLED AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH. From 3s. 6d. per Tooth; Sets, 4*l.* 4s. each. Superior to any now in use. Warranted to answer fully every purpose for which nature intended the original, without Extracting Teeth or Stumps, and without Wires of any description.

By the New and Painless System One Visit only is required of Country Patients. HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT have been awarded for the production of a PERFECTLY WHITE ENAMEL for Decayed Front Teeth, which entirely supersedes the use of any of the Amalgams now in use, consisting, as they do generally, of Quicksilver and other Metals, than which nothing can be more injurious to the Teeth and constitution generally.

The WHITE ENAMEL is a non-metallic preparation, and requires to be seen to be appreciated.

Only to be obtained of Messrs. GABRIEL, at their Establishments,

33—LUDGATE-HILL—33

(Private Entrance Five Doors from the Old Bailey); and at 112, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL.—Established 1804.

Consultation and every information Gratis.

No. 9, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE (REMOVED FROM No. 61).

TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent. Newly Invented and Patented Application of Chemically Prepared White and Gum Coloured India Rubber, in the Construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.—Mr. EPHRAIM MOSELY, Surgeon-Dentist, 9, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, Grosvenor-square, Sole Inventor and Patentee.

A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of CHEMICALLY PREPARED WHITE and GUM-COLOURED INDIA RUBBER, as a lining to the ordinary gold or bone frame. The extraordinary results of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent features: All sharp edges are avoided; no springs, wires, or fastenings are required; a greatly increased freedom of suction is supplied; a natural elasticity, hitherto wholly unattainable, and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, is secured, while, from the softness and flexibility of the agents employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose, or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums. The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically prepared INDIA RUBBER, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may, with thorough comfort be imbibed and retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell and taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation. To be obtained only at

9, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE, LONDON;

14, Gay-street, Bath; and 10, Eldon-square, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ADNAM'S IMPROVED PATENT GROATS AND BARLEY. The only existent Patent and strongly recommended by the Medical Profession.

TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, and FAMILIES.—The important object, so desirable to be obtained, has at length been secured to the public by J. and J. C. ADNAM, Patentees, who, after much, time and attention, have succeeded by their Improved Process in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality even manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

To enumerate the many advantages derived by the public from the use of the Improved Patent Groats is not the intention of the Patentees; suffice it to say that, by the process of manufacture, the acidity and unpleasant flavour so generally complained of in other preparations is totally obviated, and very superior gruel speedily made therefrom. It is particularly recommended to those of consumptive constitutions, Ladies and Children; and the healthy and strong will find it an excellent Luncheon or Supper.

The Barley, being prepared by a similar process, is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged; and to contain all the necessary properties for making a delicious pudding. It has also the distinguishing character for making very superior Barley Water, and will be found a most excellent ingredient for thickening Soup, &c.

A report having been circulated that preparations of so white a character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone, the Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority, viz., A. S. TAYLOR, M.D., F.R.S., &c., &c., for an analysis to establish the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:—

[COPY.]

"Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital, February 19, 1855.

"I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of Barley and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley; there is no mineral or other impurity present, and from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food. (Signed)

"Messrs. ADNAM and Co." "A. S. TAYLOR."

CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the public are requested to observe that each Package bears the signature of the Patentees, J. and J. C. ADNAM.

To be obtained Wholesale at the Manufactory, Maiden-lane, Queen-street, London; and Retail in Packets and Canisters, at 6d. and 1s. each, and in Canisters for Families, at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Druggists, &c. in Town and country.

PERPETUAL INVESTMENT, LAND, and BUILDING SOCIETY.

Established under 6 and 7 Wm. IV., c. xxxii.

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37, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

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INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT.

To persons desirous of investing large or small sums of money, this Society offers new and important advantages. It is adapted to the wants of all classes. It provides for the investment of savings as they accrue. It offers a convenient mode of investing money. It secures to all a large interest, and offers unquestionable security.

SHARES.—There are five descriptions of shares, viz.: 10*l.* shares, 25*l.* shares, 30*l.* shares, 50*l.* shares, and 100*l.* shares.

A 10*l.* share may be paid by instalments, in the same manner as deposits in savings' banks; the entrance fee is 6d. each share. A 25*l.* share requires the payment of 5s. per month for 7½ years; a 30*l.* share the payment of 4s. per month for 10 years; a 50*l.* share the payment of 8s. per month for 12½ years, or of 10s. per month for 7½; a 100*l.* share the payment of 10s. per month for 12½ years, or of 1*l.* per month for 7½.

The whole of the profits belong to the Shareholders, and will be received by them in addition to the amount of share.

REALISED SHARES.

This class of shares is especially adapted to Capitalists, and persons desirous of securing to themselves or others an annuity without loss of the principal.

Any of the shares before named (viz., 10*l.*, 25*l.*, 30*l.*, 50*l.*, and 100*l.*) may be paid up in full, and thus become Realised Shares.

Realised Shares may be subscribed for by irregular instalments, in which case the moneys paid in will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum, until the value of the share is fully paid.

The Interest upon Realised Shares is 5 per cent. per annum, which includes the profits belonging to such shares, and is paid half-yearly on the 30th of April and the 30th of October. The Interest is regularly forwarded to the Shareholders by cheque, the same being payable either at the Society's Bankers or at the Head Office; but, when preferred, the amount will be sent by Post-office Order, or in a registered letter.

Interest unclaimed within one month from the date of payment, is carried to the credit of the Shareholder in the Deposit Department, and interest allowed thereon.

All Monies paid upon Shares can at any time be withdrawn upon notice.

DEPOSIT DEPARTMENT.

Deposits received daily to any amount. Terms to be ascertained of the Secretary.

The Interest is payable half-yearly, on the 30th day of April and the 30th day of October, and sent by cheque or Post-office Order, at the request of the depositor.

Interest not claimed prior to the 1st day of June, and the 1st day of December, in each year, will be added to the principal, and interest paid thereon.

Depositors may withdraw their money at any time, on giving the proper notice; when the amount does not exceed 100*l.*, one week's notice; exceeding 100*l.*, one month's notice.

SAVINGS' BANK DEPARTMENT.

The Directors, being desirous of extending the advantages of the Society to all classes, have arranged for Deposits to be received and withdrawn daily during office hours, and on Wednesday evenings from six to eight o'clock.

Persons can deposit (from one shilling) any sum in the Society, without restriction as to the amount or length of deposit.

Every Depositor, on making his first payment, receives a book, in which his deposits are entered in words and figures, and each deposit is signed for by the Cashier, who receives the money, also by the Secretary, or, in his absence, by the chief clerk.

Depositors can withdraw their money upon the same notice as in the Deposit Department.

The Interest allowed is 4 per cent. per annum, which is paid half-yearly, as in the Deposit Department, no interest being allowed for fractional parts of a pound or of a month.

Special arrangements can be made for deposit of monies by "Penny Banks" or Charitable Institutions.

Deposit Books are to be left at the Offices of the Society quarterly (on or before the 1st days of January, April, July, and October in each year), for examination by the Directors with the Cash-book and Ledger accounts.

Persons residing at a distance from the Office can use this department, a Deposit-book having been provided that will go post free for one postage stamp.

LOAN DEPARTMENT.

The Directors are prepared at once to advance money in large or small sums on mortgage upon houses and lands.

A person may become a borrower at any time, obtaining without delay an advance on whatever sum he may require within the value of the security which he has to offer.

Money lent may be repaid by monthly or other instalments, spread over any number of years, not exceeding fifteen.

The Advance Table shows the amount which a borrower of 100*l.*, 500*l.*, or 1,000*l.*, will have to repay per month during the period within which he may have agreed to pay the loan. It will be seen that if the loan of 100*l.* is to be repaid within five years, the sum to be repaid monthly is 2*l.* 2s. 4d., and that if it is to be repaid within fifteen years, the sum to be repaid monthly is 19s. 9d.

The Charges of the Society's Solicitors for preparing the mortgage are defrayed by the Society, and included in the repayments as specified in the Advance Table.

A loan may be repaid within a shorter period than that originally stipulated; or if, after a time, the repayments originally fixed are burdensome, the period within which the loan should be paid off may be extended, and the repayments consequently reduced, as seen in the Conversion Table. Thus, for example, a borrower takes an advance of 100*l.*, and engages to pay a monthly subscription during ten years of 1*l.* 5s. 2d; at the end of five years he finds he cannot maintain his payments, and the Directors allow him, upon payment of any necessary expenses, to pay 15s. per month for ten years, commencing from the end of the first five years, in lieu of the remaining five years' payments of the original monthly payment of 1*l.* 5s. 2d., which would be otherwise due to the Society.

THE SUM OF 365,000*l.* HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THIS SOCIETY SINCE MAY, 1851, THUS SHOWING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PUBLIC IN THE PRINCIPLES OF THE INSTITUTION.

A copy of the last Annual Report, with Prospectus, will be sent upon receipt of One Postage Stamp.

JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

Agents wanted where none are appointed.

COLOUR-BOXES.—The largest, cheapest, and best assortment of Water-Colour Boxes in London, at J. BARNARD'S, 339, Oxford-street (opposite John-street), London.

IF YOU LOVE a GOOD CUP of TEA, BUY HIND'S CELEBRATED MIXTURE, Corner of North-street, King's-cross, third turning from the Great Northern Terminus, City-side. Tea for the Million, 2s. 10d. lb.

EPPS'S COCOA.—This excellent Preparation is supplied in 1lb. and ½lb. packets, 1s. 6d, and 9d. 7lb. in canister, 10s. 6d.
JAMES EPPS, HOMŒOPATHIC CHEMIST, 170, Piccadilly; 82, Old Broad-street, City; 112, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

COCOA-NUT FIBRE MATTING.—TRELOAR'S IS THE BEST.—Prize Medals awarded, London, New York, and Paris. Catalogues, containing prices, and every particular, free by post. Warehouse, 42, Ludgate-hill, London.

STEAM ENGINES. — First-class NON-CONDENSING STEAM ENGINES at 25l. per horse-power. Consumption of fuel under 4lbs. per indicated horse-power per hour.—W. H. NASH, Engineer, Isle of Dogs, London.

AMERICAN OVERSHOES, Men's, Women's, and Children's, Cheapest and Best, Wholesale and Retail, at the GUTTA PERCHA WAREHOUSE, 87, Holborn-hill, London. Gutta Percha Sheet, Soles, Solution, Bands, and Tubing. The trade and country dealers supplied on liberal terms.

CHEAPEST MODERATOR LAMPS, in the Strand, 4s. 6d. each, warranted. Light of three candles at the cost of one. Proper instructions to avoid breaking chimneys. Newest style of bronze and porcelain direct from Paris weekly, at about half the usual price.—SMITH, 231, Strand (exactly opposite Norfolk-street).

MAPPINS' "SHILLING" RAZOR, sold everywhere, warranted good by the Makers, MAPPIN BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield; and 67 and 68, King William-street, City, London, where the largest stock of Cutlery in the world is kept.

MAPPINS' SUPERIOR TABLE-KNIVES maintain their unrivalled superiority—handles cannot possibly become loose; the blades are all of the very first quality, being their own Sheffield manufacture. Buyers supplied at their London Warehouse, 67 and 68, King William-street, City; and Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

MAPPINS' ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE. Messrs. MAPPINS' celebrated Manufactures in Electro-Plate, comprising Tea and Coffee Services, Side Dishes, Dish Covers, Spoons, and Forks, and all articles usually made in Silver, can now be obtained from their London Warehouse, No. 67, King William-street, City, where the largest stock in London may be seen.—Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield. Catalogue, with prices, sent free on application.

EMBROIDERY and BRAIDING.—Beautiful Designs on the best Muslin, ready for Working. Children's Dresses, from 2s. 6d. Long Robes, from 5s. 6d. Capes, from 2s. 6d. Collars, Sleeves, Gauntlets, Chemisettes, Handkerchiefs, Nightcaps, Shirt Fronts; Bread, Cheese, and Fish Cloths; D'Oyleys, &c. Borders from one inch to forty. Slippers, Smoking Caps, Mats, Table-covers, on Cloth, Appliqué, &c. Berlin Wool, Beads, Bugles, &c. A Collar and List of Prices sent Free for Five Stamps. The Trade supplied.

Mrs. WILCOCKSON, 44, Goodge-street, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only.—COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 24s. per ton net for the BEST SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to Her Majesty.—13, Cornhill; Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars; and Eaton-wharf, Belgrave-place, Pimlico.

COALS.—By Screw and Railway.—LEA and CO., HIGHBURY and KINGSLAND COAL DEPOTS.—HETTON'S, 23s. PER TON, the best house coals in the world, are brought direct from the Colliery to the Poplar Docks, by the screw-steamers Cochrane, Hetton, and Northumberland; or the Marchioness of Londonderry's Stewart's Wallsend delivered, screened, to any part of London, at 25s. per ton, cash. Highgate, Hampstead, Hornsey, or Edmonton, 1s. per ton extra. All orders to be addressed to LEA and CO., Chief Offices, North London Railway Stations, Highbury, Islington, or Kingsland.

ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE in IMPERIAL PINTS.—HARRINGTON, PARKER, and Co., are now delivering the October Brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest Medical and Chemical Authorities of the day. Supplied in Bottles, also in Casks of Eighteen Gallons and upwards, by HARRINGTON, PARKER, and Co., 54, Pall-mall.

THE CONTINENTAL WINE COMPANY, BIRCHIN-LANE, CORNHILL,
Are enabled by their connexion with the principal wine-growers to supply every description of WINE of the finest qualities, at prices for cash far below the average, including their
Alto Douro Ports, at 42s. per dozen.
Genuine ditto, 34s. per dozen.
Superior Pale or Gold Sherries, 30s. to 36s. per dozen.
Orders, containing a remittance, will receive prompt attention.

"Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake."—1 Tim. v. 23.

BURGUNDY PORT, and SHERRY SACK. The Prize Wines of the Paris Exhibition of 1855, from the vine-clad hills of the sunny south, recommended by medical men for their purity and freedom from acidity and brandy, are offered to the public as at once the most exquisite and the lowest priced Foreign Wines that the world has seen.
Price 2s. 4d. per Bottle, or 28s. per dozen (bottles, &c., included), to be had, for cash only, of F. W. SELLERS, 1, Chapel-place, Cavendish-square; 147, Oxford-street. Orders received at 37, Crutched-friars.

TWENTY SHILLINGS PER DOZEN.

SOUTH AFRICAN PORT.
SOUTH AFRICAN SHERRY.
SOUTH AFRICAN MADEIRA.

"Having tasted these Wines, we say to those who like Wine possessing richness without sweetness, dryness without acidity, and body without brandy, by all means give them a trial."—Vide Bell's Weekly Messenger, Jan. 17, 1857.
Bottles included. Packages allowed for when returned.
Delivered free to any of the Railway Termini in London. Terms cash.
A Sample Bottle for Twenty-four Stamps.
Country Orders must contain a remittance. Cheques to be crossed "Bank of London."
J. L. DENMAN, Wine and Spirit Importer, 65, Fenchurch-street, London.

SAMUEL S. BENSON, Watch Manufacturer 47 and 63, CORNHILL, LONDON.
BENSON'S EXACT WATCH, in elegant Gold Cases, English make, 14l. 14s.; in Silver Cases, 7l. 7s. Benson's Gold Horizontal Watches, all the latest improvements, 4l. 15s.; ditto, in Silver Cases, 2l. 16s. A Written Warranty and Two Years' Trial. Sent post free, in answer to Post-office or Bankers' Order, addressed as above. Illustrated Price Current, gratis.

ARTISANS should Buy their WATCHES of SAMUEL S. BENSON, Watch Manufacturer, 47 and 63, CORNHILL, LONDON. The ARTISAN'S WATCH, a good sound English Lever Watch, Silver Cases, with all the latest improvements, jewelled, &c., price Four Guineas, sent to any part of the United Kingdom, on receipt of Post-office or Bankers' order, payable in London, addressed above. Warrantry for Two years.

J. W. BENSON'S WATCHES.—Manufactory, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London: established 1749.—Before you buy a watch visit and inspect the magnificent display of watches of every description, construction, and pattern, at this manufactory, or send for the illustrated pamphlet, containing sketches, prices, and all the information requisite in the purchase of a watch, with the opinions of the "Morning Chronicle," "Post," "Herald," "Advertiser," "Globe," "Standard," "Sun," "Observer," and numerous other papers, bearing testimony to the beauty, finish, and excellency of these watches. Gold watches, at 4l. 4s. to 100 guineas; silver watches, at 2l. 2s. to sixty guineas each. A two years' warranty with each watch, and sent post paid to any part of England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales, upon receipt of post-office or banker's order.—J. W BENSON, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill.

BENNETT'S PRESENTATION WATCHES.—65, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.
J. BENNETT has just completed a very choice selection of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES for
PRESENTATION WATCHES.

First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
Gold, 40 Guineas.	30 Guineas.	20 Guineas.
Silver, 20 ,,	15 ,,	10 ,,

Every Watch skilfully Examined, Timed, and its performance guaranteed.
Having been manufactured for the express purpose of Presentation, every Watch has received special attention, so that public bodies who desire to present a valuable and lasting memorial, will find an unfailing Timekeeper, and an elegant work of art, at a very moderate price. Gold Chains to suit.
BENNETT'S WATCH MANUFACTORY, 65, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

ELKINGTON and CO., PATENTEES of the ELECTRO PLATE, MANUFACTURING SILVERSMITHS, BRONZISTS, &c., beg to intimate that they have added to their extensive Stocks a large variety of new designs in the highest class of art, which have recently obtained for them at the Paris Exhibition the decoration of the Cross of the Legion of Honour, as well as the "Grande Medaille d'Honneur" (the only one accorded to the trade).
The Council Medal was also awarded to them at the Exhibition of 1851.
Each article bears their mark, E. and Co., under a Crown, and articles sold as being plated by Elkington's patent process afford no guarantee of quality.
22, Regent-street, 45, Moorgate-street, } London,
And at their Manufactory, Newhall-street, Birmingham.
Estimates and Drawings sent free by post. Re-plating and Gilding as usual.

PIANOFORTES FOR SALE.—A very fine-toned 6½ Semi-Grand, by Broadwood, suitable for a school price Twelve Guineas. A 6 Octave Cottage, by Turner, Fifteen Guineas. Several others at low prices. To be seen at Messrs. Ralph Smith and Co.'s, 171, Bishopsgate-street-without.

CHEAPEST VERSUS CHEAP.—QUALITY THE ONLY TEST.
CABINET, UPHOLSTERY, and DECORATIVE FURNITURE USUALLY SOLD AS CHEAP IS WORTHLESS, THE REALLY GOOD IS CHEAPEST, and may be had at moderate prices, at the
WEST-END FURNITURE MANUFACTORY.
A well-selected stock always on hand.
MATTHEW HENRY CHAFFIN
(LATE DURLEY AND COMPANY),
66 and 67, Oxford-street, and 1, 2, and 3, Adam and Eve-court, London, close to the Princess's Theatre,
Importer of first-class Parisian Paper Hangings.
Established 1820.

HOWITT and CO.'S 31s. LOO TABLES are made of Solid Mahogany—3 ft. 6 in diameter, 31s.; 3 ft. 9 ditto, 38s. 6d.; 4 ft. ditto, 45s. Warranted sound workmanship and good material: superior to any thing in the trade at the price. Walnut and Rosewood from 4 Guineas. A large stock always on show in their extensive Furnishing Galleries 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, High Holborn, London.

FURNITURE.—ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.—A new Furnishing Guide, of a superior order, containing designs of Furniture suitable to all classes, with reference number and cost of each article. Also, the sum total for furnishing a Villa or Mansion of any magnitude, can be had on application. No family ought to be without one. The increasing demand for information by persons about to furnish, from all parts of the United Kingdom, and the suburbs of the metropolis, have induced HOWITT and CO., at considerable cost, to prepare this their new Furnishing Guide, which, on perusal, must be appreciated by the public. Being in character with the high standing of the Establishment it represents, and ornamental in finish, it may have a place on the Drawing-room or Library Table.
HOWITT and CO., House Furnishers, Bedding and Carpet Manufacturers, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, High Holborn.

CLERGYMEN ABOUT to FURNISH should immediately apply for our Pamphlet, of which the New Edition, for 1856, containing 105 beautifully executed Drawings, is just published, and will be sent GRATIS and POST FREE. Intending purchasers will at once observe the manifest advantage of selecting all their requirements from our immense stock of Home Manufactured solid CABINET FURNITURE, CARPETS, FLOOR-CLOTHS, IRON BEDSTEADS, and purified BEDDING. This novel and most valuable Pamphlet shows the cost of every item, also the cost of separate rooms, as well as the entire cost of furnishing every description of house, such as

	£	s.	d.
A four-roomed cottage, with every necessary, for	27	17	4
A six-roomed ditto, with every comfort, for . .	82	15	0
An eight-roomed house, in a superior manner, for	150	13	6
A twelve-roomed do., completely and elegantly, for	389	3	6

With every article admirably illustrated.
Special estimates and designs will be furnished in any part of the Kingdom, free of charge, whenever required. Every article warranted to be of the soundest material and best workmanship, and all ORDERS ARE DELIVERED CARRIAGE FREE, REGARDLESS OF DISTANCE.
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